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BIRTHS.

On the 23rd January, the wife of Rev. G. R. VALLINGS, of a son.

On the 24th January, at No. 21, Shelley Street, the wife of D. COATES, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, on 10th January, 1899, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, LAURA NATHALIE, daughter of N. F. SMITH, of Yokohama, Japan, to CHARLES HENRY WILSON, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

On 11th January, at Holy Trinity Church, Osaka, by Rev. G. Chapman assisted by Rev. C. T. Warren, M.A., the Rev. W. R. GRAY, M.A., to NINA, only daughter of General F. T. HAIG, R.E., South Nutfield, England.

On the 13th January, 1899, at the British Consulate, Shanghai, and afterwards at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, T. J. HOVELL, to M. E. EDWARDS, the eldest daughter of S. EDWARDS, of Llangollen, North Wales.

On the 14th January, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Ven'ble Archdeacon Perham, assisted by the Rev. A. S. M. Wetherall and the Rev. Holland Stubbs, PERCY LEIGH INGPEN, 1st Battalion "The Prince of Wales Own," son of Robert F. INGPEN, Esq., Director of the Union Bank, Chancery Lane, London, to ELEANOR SUSIE, daughter of James LYALL, Esq., of Singapore.

On Wednesday, 18th January, 1899, at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Tokyo, by the Rev. Father Eyraud, EDITH LUCY, daughter of Dr. EDWARD DRIVERS, F.R.S., Professor in the Imperial University, Tokyo, to Captain Viscount DE LABRY, Military Attaché to the French Legation, Tokyo.

DEATHS.

At Kobe, on the 15th January, Colonel J. H. NIENSTEAD (late Military Instructor to H. I. Korean Majesty's Bodyguard), aged 46 years.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 21st January, 1899, AUGUSTUS BARRIER, aged 52 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French and English mails of the 16th and 23rd December arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat*, on the 21st January (36 and 29 days); the American mail of the 23rd December arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 22nd January (30 days); the Canadian mail of the 2nd January arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of India*, on the 24th January (22 days); and the American mail of the 24th December arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, on the 25th January (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Colquhoun left Ichang on the 1st inst. for the West and Burma.

There is apparently no change in the situation at the Philippines, judging from telegrams received within the last few days.

Japanese papers report the death of Princess Yoshinomiya, the youngest daughter of the Emperor. The deceased Princess was born on the 24th September, 1897, and was therefore sixteen months old.

When passing through Kobe Lord Charles Beresford dined with the local branch of the China Association. His Lordship afterwards proceeded to Osaka, where he inspected the various industries of the place.

Mr. J. A. Van Aalst, Acting Postal Secretary in the Inspectorate-General of Customs, Peking, and Mr. P. von Tanner, Acting Commissioner of Customs, Foochow, have, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, been raised to the rank of Commissioner.

A regulation has been issued by the American authorities at Manila that no natives are to be allowed in the streets after 10 p.m. without a pass, the regulation coming into force on the 13th January. The object is to prevent seditious assemblies and other disorders.

We understand that Prince and Princess Henry will not leave for Bangkok to-day, as previously arranged, and that the visit may possibly be deferred until after the visit to Kiaochau. Their Royal Highnesses will remain in Hongkong for some weeks longer.

We (*China Gazette*) understand that Mr. Colin Ford, the British Consul at Swatow, is retiring from the service owing to ill-health and that his place at that port will be taken by Mr. G. M. H. Playfair. We have not heard yet who is to be Mr. Playfair's successor at Ningpo.

A native official telegram received at Shanghai on the 22nd January from Chungking reports the rescue of General Chou who was recently captured by Yu Man-tze, and that owing to the preparations being made to crush the rebellion the rebels are now scattering.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A letter from Peking received at Shanghai on the 18th January by a prominent local mandarin states that it is freely rumoured in the Six Boards that the Empress Dowager has sent a secret edict to Chinese Turkestan ordering the recall of Chang Yin-huan from banishment, that it is intended to restore him his honours, and that he is to hold office again.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A Washington telegram of the 16th January published in the Manila papers states that three more gunboats are being sent out to reinforce the American fleet in these waters. Another regiment of regulars is also to be sent to Manila as speedily as possible. This, added to those already on the way, will make six regiments, which will relieve the same number of volunteer regiments now doing duty at Manila.

A fire occurred at Shanghai on the morning of the 18th January resulting in the destruction of 58 Chinese houses, principally shops of the poorer class, situated at the junction of the Woochang and Boone Roads and belonging to the Land Investment Co. and valued, at Tls. 13,000, but fully covered by the Hongkong and China offices. Most of the occupants were uninsured, but several companies have lines on the contents including Manchester Tls. 4,600, Imperial Tls. 700, and the North British Tls. 500.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* of the 14th January says:—The new Governor of Kiaochow, Captain Jaschke, who must now be well on his way to the Far East, will not at once proceed to take up his post at Tsintau. He will remain four weeks in Hongkong and afterwards six weeks in Shanghai to study in both places the system of administration and public questions. If we are correctly informed, the German Government has already directed a complete report to be prepared on the Customs question, the opium regulations, and the currency system at Hongkong.

Major G. W. Brazier Creagh (R. M. S.), Capt. McSwiney (7th Dragoon Guards), and Capt. Purvis (R. E.) have arrived in Shanghai in connection with the special work for which they have been lent by the British Government to the Peking Syndicate. Major Creagh and Capt. McSwiney have already made names for themselves by travels in Persia and Khorassan extending over several years. In a few days, when some other gentlemen associated with the Peking Syndicate have reached Shanghai, the party will start for Hankow and thence for the country covered by the immense concessions to the Syndicate, paying particular attention to the Hankow-Peking Railway route.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Private advices from Ichang, says the *Mercury*, show that H.M.S. *Esk*, Captain Chadwick, is still at that port. It was feared that a rising was to take place in Ichang itself, the people having been very much disturbed of late, and showing signs of rising against their effete rulers. That another French missionary has been murdered by the rebels there can be no doubt. It is most difficult to get trustworthy information, but most definite details several times confirmed have been received at Ichang from a mission station about 100 miles to the north of Ichang that the unfortunate priest was literally hacked to pieces. It is thought by foreigners both at Ichang and Shashi that the rebellion will shortly spread rapidly down river.

THE OPENING OF THE INLAND WATERS AND THE LOI-SHUI QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 26th January.)

The so-called policy of the "open door" and the policy of "division" each have their advocates as being the remedy for a state of things which both admit to be bad in that homogeneous mass known amongst nations as China. Both will admit that while the argument is going on as to which is the right one to pursue, no harm can be done in trying to reform some of the abuses which are mainly the cause of the necessity for adopting either policy. To those bent on reform the words of MAOULAY when dealing with the proceedings of that Parliament whose history he loved to tell carry a significance and a moral which might well be applied to China to-day. He says:—"They were perfectly aware that the English institutions stood in need of reform. But they also knew that an important point was gained if they could settle once for all by a solemn compact the matters which during several generations had been in controversy. They therefore most judiciously abstained from mixing up the irritating and perplexing questions of what ought to be the law with the plain question of what was the law." In Mr. GRAY's speech, when introducing Lord CHARLES BERESFORD to the Chamber of Commerce, and also in the latter's speech when addressing that body, there were two points on which each dwelt where the necessity clearly exists for defining what is the law. We allude to the "undefined" Tsoli or Lo-ti-shui tax awaiting the "shipment at its destination" and "the complete opening of the waterways of China." The first issue is to some extent covered by and included in the second, inasmuch as by the regulations for the latter it is provided that the amount of dues and duties leviable on foreign goods at the various stations passed by the steamer shall be declared; thus giving the option of payment of taxes *en route*, or the cover of a transit pass, whichever course the merchant chooses to adopt; but the "undefined" Tsoli still awaits both classes after arrival at their destination. The bulk of merchants are only too fully aware of the meaning of this and of the manner in which our Government by a decision—based as it was on an honourable but mistaken notion of the country with which they were dealing—has given to a rapacious and corrupt official class an excuse for extortion and the levy of vexatious taxes on our goods. There is the strongest and most urgent necessity that the amount of this undefined Tsoli should be at once declared by the Chinese Government and also the places where it is payable. If there is the slightest hesitation shown in doing this the remedy lies with us and it should be applied promptly. It is, to make the transit pass clear goods of all other taxation whatever. In either case we shall have fixed what the law is and can then proceed to amend it if necessary.

With regard to the second point, we fancy that to the greater part of his hearers the statement made by Lord CHARLES BERESFORD that "the waterways would not be satisfactorily thrown open until they had a different system of allowing those boats which were registered in a certain port to pass any port to go to a destination" must have been somewhat confusing. On this subject we cannot too strongly urge on

our Minister to state publicly and clearly what is the law with regard to the opening of these waters. It is useless to maintain the fiction of China having the right to pass any laws she likes in the matter. The British Minister is the man who inaugurated the scheme; he received the credit of the idea in the House of Commons, and to him the public look to see it successfully carried out. That it has, as yet, not been successfully carried out no one can doubt, or if they do, they simply have to look round them and see the number of British ships which have taken advantage of the privilege accorded to them, to be convinced of the truth of our statement. We have frequently commented on the proposed opening of the waters. We have given loyal support to our Minister in what we foresaw and foretold, when the idea was first mooted, would be no easy task. We pointed out that a uniform system of duties for all goods would be the important point in the whole scheme; and we advocated and counselled patience on the part of merchants as being a necessity for the carrying through of such a radical reform as seemed to be implied by the opening of these waters. This was in the early part of last year. Nine months have now elapsed and we still await some explanation from our Minister of the conditions under which he has obtained this concession. The "Chinese Yellow Book" states that "steamers not being vessels of a sea going type" are allowed to trade. We ask, and ask with justice, whether an expression such as this received Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's assent or not? If so, what is the meaning of it? Were this expression the only point or phrase which needs defining it might be allowed to pass as one of those delightfully vague statements so dear to the heart of Chinese Officials and whereby they "save their face"; but there are other and vastly more important stakes at issue. We, as did the public, accepted our Minister's statement that inland waters would be opened "to steamers specially registered for that trade at the Treaty Ports" in all good faith. We looked for no subtle meaning underlying the words, but by the interpretation which the Chinese Government put upon it, it is not only the registration, as the ordinary reader might suppose, which is to take place at the Treaty Port, but the "trade" itself is to be confined to it and the small area surrounding it. It is for Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD to say, and we urge him to say it in plain unmistakable English, which version the public are to accept.

The criticism of the "Supplementary Rules" which appeared in our issue of the 18th October was based on the idea that a British (or Chinese for that matter) steamer would be free to carry goods, native or foreign, between any two places in China, provided she did not attempt to leave the waters of China and touch at foreign ports; or, in other words, that free circulation of goods was to be allowed on the payment of a fixed sum for duty. We dealt with certain details of those Rules which appeared to us to require some further explanation. The explanation has now been given. We thought the waters of China meant the waters of China; we find we were wrong. The so-called opening of the waters means this: A steamer is to be allowed to run from a Treaty Port to an inland place, touching at other inland places *en route*; but she must return to the same Treaty Port. She cannot carry goods from one inland place to another if those places are situated one on each side of the Treaty Port at which the vessel is registered; neither can she extend her trade to between two Treaty Ports. The

whole idea is that the Treaty Port is to be the centre from which will radiate lines of steamers carrying foreign goods to all the surrounding places; and bringing goods, destined for export to a foreign country, from those places to the Treaty Port. It is not difficult to see whence this idea originated; it is based on the old fallacy that the British merchant resides at the various Treaty Ports, where he imports his foreign goods and sells them to his Chinese constituents, and that consequently there is a radius round every Treaty Port where the foreign merchant desires to send his goods. These will be carried to any place within that radius by steamers registered for inland navigation at that Treaty Port; or, if by chance the merchant wishes to send his goods to a place situated on the other side of the next Treaty Port to the one he resides in, he can send them, as he did before the opening of waters, by another class of steamers, namely, vessels engaged in trade between two Treaty Ports. At the last Treaty Port they will be transhipped into the inland water steamer and carried to their destination. The same with exports destined for abroad.

If our Minister is impressed with any ideas of that sort we commend to his notice Mr. BRENNAN's "Report on the Trade at the Treaty Ports." That he is impressed with those ideas and consequently has made a mistake perhaps not unnatural to a man now intimately acquainted with the conditions of trade in China is evidenced by the "Trade Regulations of the Yangtze Kiang" sent to the Foreign Office from Peking on August 5th last. In these it is stated "Chinese junks chartered by foreigners are only available for conveying foreign owned cargo from Treaty Port to Treaty Port . . . the conditions of the bond being that the cargo goes *bond fide* foreign property." That is to say, the whole of the chartered junk trade now carried on between Ichang and Chungking ought to be stopped, for it is very certain that all the cargo carried in the junks is Chinese owned. It is this misconception of the conditions of trade that has caused our Minister to fall into the error he has with regard to what can only be called his unsuccessful attempt to open the waterways of China. It is to the carriage of all goods, Chinese as well as foreign, and more particularly to the carriage of the domestic trade of China under an equal tariff, that he must give his attention, as we pointed out on April 30th last; and, as we then said, it is no light task. The logical consequence of the proper opening of the waterways of China means the abolition of the tax of 7½ per cent. (duty and a half) now levied by the Customs on all steamer borne Chinese goods carried between two Treaty Ports. It should not be difficult nor do we think it would be unfair to extend to Chinese goods the same privileges as are granted to foreign ones. Give the Chinese the right to pay dues and duties on their goods *en route*, or to commute all further *en route* taxation by payment of what they now pay to secure the carriage of them by steamer between two Treaty Ports merely because they are steamer-borne. In short, extend the transit pass system to the domestic trade of China. The sooner the idea is abandoned that foreign goods and foreign trade are the sole concern of our Minister and that the Chinese Government has the right to tax its own subjects and their goods in any manner it pleases the sooner we shall arrive at a correct understanding of the points at issue in the opening, not only of the waterways, but the whole of the country to trade.

THE CHINESE EMPEROR'S CONDITION.

(Daily Press, 24th January.)

The fiction of the ill health of the Emperor Kwang Su is still being kept up by the so-called Government at Peking. His enforced seclusion is to be continued indefinitely, it would seem, to suit the plans and pleasure of the Empress Dowager. The old lady has now for some months tasted of the sweets of power, and the taste lingers pleasantly on her venerable palate. The coup d'état planned by her with her supporters was successful, and the risks now possibly appear less grave than they did when the conspirators lingered doubtfully on the brink. The Government published an Imperial Decree on the 9th January to the following effect:—"As We are not in good health, all Court ceremonies, festivals, and banquets usually held during the closing month of the Old Year and the opening month of the New Year are hereby commanded to be discontinued until further orders, with the only exception of New Year's Day, on which occasion We will present Ourselves at the head of the Princes, Dukes, Nobles, and high Ministers of the Court at the Huang-chieh Throne Hall to pay our New Year congratulations and obeisances to the Empress Dowager." According to the translator of the above, the Throne Hall is seldom used, and its high flown designation (*Huang-chieh*) "Acme of Imperial Excellence" gives its selection on this occasion peculiar significance. The Empress Dowager has chosen the Throne Hall in order to emphasize in the minds of the nobles and officials her supreme authority. The poor young Emperor is to be trotted out on New Year's Day to do the Usurper homage: His Majesty is, in short, to take a personal share in his own degradation. The plea of ill health put forward is, moreover, generally believed to be fictitious. A foreigner who saw the Emperor Kwang Su quite recently reports that he was apparently in excellent health. Any plea is, however, seemingly good enough now to suit the turn of those in power at Peking. The saving of face hardly appears to be regarded as a necessary operation. Since they are entirely unashamed, it is unnecessary to make any really decent excuse. The old fiction is quite sufficient for the purpose, seeing that it has sufficed for the Representatives of the Treaty Powers, for the Tributary States, for the Viceroy of the Eighteen Provinces, and for the three hundred millions of sheep-like subjects of the Son of Heaven. The change, a great and notable one, has been tacitly acquiesced in; the crimes and cruelties with which it was attended have been silently condoned; and, to crown all, the ladies of the Foreign Legations have been received in audience by the Usurper and have accepted presents from her hands! Is it therefore to be wondered at that the Empress Dowager should wax bold in dealing with the subjects of the Dragon Throne?

NATIVE OPPOSITION TO MINING ENTERPRISE.

(Daily Press, 24th January.)

The experience of the Pao Wo Mining Company at Nin Si-kong, near Ningpo, of the disposition of the populace towards new enterprises for opening up the mineral resources of China should prove useful to foreign syndicates and capitalists. As a general rule the people are quiet and peaceable, enough in their attitude towards foreigners unless their prejudices are aroused

by the gentry or officials, and there may have been an incendiary who applied the spark in the first instance in the case before us. But, so far as the published account goes, there seems nothing to connect the officials with the outrage and destruction subsequently wrought. There had evidently been some difficulty in getting the mine opened, for it is stated that the third attempt was made on the 8th instant, when two officials with a body of some forty soldiers were present at the ceremonies, which included the propitiation of the guardian spirit of the mountain. The Company had gone to this length to meet popular superstition, but apparently it was not sufficient. The spirit may have been propitiated, but the people were obviously not placated. The officials then committed the grave mistake of withdrawing the soldiers, one that will probably cost them dear. This encouraged the local rowdies and their following to attack the mine stores, which were stored at a temple in charge of Mr. RENNISON, the mine manager. He was entirely unsupported, and was therefore compelled to fly to save his life, which was unquestionably in danger. His Chinese interpreter stuck manfully to him, but was of course unable to do anything to prevent the sacking of the Company's property, which followed on their flight into the hills. The stores and property destroyed by the mob were of the value of about \$10,000, and a claim for compensation for this loss is being laid before the Taotai by Mr. PLAYFAIR, the British Consul. The mandarins will have to pay this little bill, but it will probably be collected in the district, and some further aggravation thereby entailed. The incident might have been entirely averted if a force of soldiers had been maintained in Nin Si-kong until the excitement had subsided and the inhabitants become accustomed to the presence of the mining company and its operations. There was really no excuse for the withdrawal of the military seeing that sufficient warning of the temper of the populace had plainly been given before the propitiation ceremonies were performed as a sop to the geomantic Cerberus of the place. It is to be hoped that this little episode—happily, through the timely escape of Mr. RENNISON, unattended by bloodshed—will be taken to heart both by foreign concessionaires and by the Chinese officials, and that whenever hostility on the part of the natives to a railway or a mine is either manifested or suspected an armed force may be provided as a precaution. There is no occasion to deal harshly with the villagers, but they must, if necessary, be taught that they have no power to block the way to the development of the country.

FOREIGN POWERS AND THE TELEGRAPH CABLES.

(Daily Press, 21st January.)

A short time ago one of our Tonkin contemporaries had an article complaining that the telegraphic cable between Haiphong and Hongkong was in the hands of a British Company and urging that the Government, even if the cost had been greater, should have seen that the enterprise was confided to a French Company. We note also that the laying of a German cable from the German coast to Kiaochow has been advocated. Our French and German friends appear to have overlooked the important fact that the British Government has granted a virtual monopoly to the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, and that under the terms of the

contracts with that concern no foreign cable could be allowed to land on any British territory on the route to or in the Far East unless by special arrangement. The Company, already named, together with the Great Northern, also enjoys exclusive rights and privilege in China. There could be no objection to the French laying a cable of their own from Haiphong except that they would have to leave the other end in deep water, and as that would be of no use to themselves nor in any way injure British interests it may be concluded that no such enterprise will be undertaken. If we turn to the proposed German cable much the same result is arrived at. A cable might conceivably be laid from Germany to Kiaochow, but the physical difficulties in the way, if the cable could not touch on any British soil *en route*, would be enormous, and the absence of all intermediate traffic would not only place any return upon the capital out of the question but would preclude the possibility of the cable's earning even its working expenses, so that a heavy charge for operation and maintenance would have to be met. Nor do we see that Foreign Governments have any right to complain of the circumstances. British enterprise and industry having established a profitable enterprise, and one possessing political importance, it is not to be expected that either the British Government or the Companies concerned should be anxious to encourage foreign subsidised Companies formed for the purpose of cutting the original enterprise out. If foreign capitalists wish to have an interest in the cables they can buy the shares of the English Companies on the open market, and they may be assured that they will thereby get much better interest on their investment than they would by sinking their money in a Company formed for the purpose of competing with the existing Companies. It may not be out of place, however, to suggest to the latter that they should not abuse the favourable position they enjoy by exacting extortionate rates, or they may alienate the sympathy that should be their chief support. As it is, indeed, the mercantile community would welcome competition if an alternative and independent route could be found for another cable, whether British or foreign but along the route of the present British lines it is not to be expected that foreign Companies should find facilities placed in their way.

THE OCCUPATION OF MANILA AND THE SPREAD OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

(Daily Press, 21st January.)

There are those who hold that English is destined to become the universal language. Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, when distributing the prizes at Queen's College a couple of years ago, half confessed himself a believer in the doctrine and urged it as a reason why Chinese boys should devote themselves to the study of English. Possibly most of the many millions who own the language as their mother tongue cherish sentimental ideas of the same kind, though reason must tell them that there is little prospect of their realisation. Seeing that English has not yet wholly displaced Welsh and Gaelic within the confines of the British Isles it may be inferred that it is not likely to displace all other languages. English, however, is the chief commercial language of the world, in travel it is more useful than any other, and its use is daily extending. The recent Hispano-American war will exercise a strong influence in this direction.

Had the Philippines been retained by the United States and administered as a colony English would no doubt have been taught in all the secondary schools, if not also in the elementary. The present probability is that the islands will be restored to the natives, saving only the towns of Manila and Cavite. Even so, however, the English language will necessarily come largely into use. Manila will remain the great commercial emporium of the country and will occupy a position in relation to the Philippines analogous to that occupied by Hongkong in relation to China; it will be not only a commercial emporium, but a seat of education whose influence will make itself felt throughout the islands. The Filipinos in their own primary educational system will probably be content to make use of only their own language, but the majority of those who proceed to the acquisition of a foreign language will very soon give the preference to English, discarding Spanish, which has already ceased to be of much practical use to them. The principal newspapers of Manila will in future be published in English, English will be the language of the Government of the Settlement and of the Chamber of Commerce, and the Filipinos outside Manila will find it to their interest to cultivate a knowledge of that tongue through which their intercourse with the outside world will in future be principally conducted. We will have, in short, another link in the long chain of English speaking communities, and a link of considerable importance. Language exercises a very direct effect on the course of politics, and the spread of the English language must necessarily be viewed with satisfaction by the Anglo-Saxon race.

FORMIDABLE REBELLION IN ANHUI.

IMPERIALISTS HEAVILY DEFEATED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] Shanghai, 20th January.

In Anhui a rebellion has broken out under a chief named Nin, and may possibly involve the whole of Central China.

The Imperialists were heavily defeated on the 10th inst. before Kuyang.

The Governors of the surrounding provinces are despatching all available troops.

Shanghai, 23rd January.

The Anhui rebels have captured Kuyang and Mengcheng and are now threatening Shuchow and Kanchow.

RELEASE OF FATHER FLEURY.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] Shanghai, 23rd January.

The Chungking correspondent of the N. C. Daily News wires that it is reported there that Father Fleury has been released and that he is mentally deranged, but this lacks confirmation.

SHANGHAI, 25th January.

Father Fleury arrived at Chungking on Monday.

In the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements the Colonial Secretary has given notice of the following motion:—"Whereas it has been usual to warn officers appointed to the service of this colony since 1894, from a country possessing a gold standard of currency, that the exchange compensation allowance on half their salaries will be granted to them so long as it is granted to other members of the service, but that the continuance thereof is not guaranteed and is subject to the annual vote of the Council, and it is deemed that such warning is calculated to deter eligible persons from entering the public service, it is hereby resolved that it is expedient to discontinue such warning in future, and to regard the compensation as a permanent but not as a pensionable emolument."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On the 25th January, a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, Sir Henry BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

His EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE C.M.G. (Officer Commanding the Troops).

Hon. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. E. R. BELILIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. J. J. BELL IRVING.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted as a correct record.

PAPERS AND FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Coroner's returns for 1898, the report on the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund for 1898, and financial minutes Nos. one to four, moving that the latter be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

NATURALISATION.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Naturalization of Mak Ngán Wan, alias Mak Chin K'i, alias Mak Sui Nin, Mak Yat Wo, alias Mak Sun, was passed.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK ORDINANCE.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 5 of 1866 and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1882, was passed.

This Bill is introduced under instructions received from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who considers that Ordinance No. 6 of 1898 is incomplete, in the following respects, namely:—(1.) That it does not embody the arrangement which was made with the Bank in 1889 with regard to the security for its ordinary note issue, and (2.) That it does not provide with sufficient clearness that the deposit which is required in respect of the excess note issue is to be under the custody of the Colonial Secretary and the Colonial Treasurer and not under that of the Bank.

THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PLACES ORDINANCE.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 8 of 1870 (Public Buildings) was passed.

The object of the amendment to Ordinance 8 of 1870 which is contained in section 2 of this Ordinance is to confer power upon a constable, custodian, watchman, or keeper, to arrest and detain on the spot without any warrant, summons, or other legal process, any person found committing a breach of any regulation made under Ordinance 8 of 1870. The object of the amendment contained in section 3 of this Ordinance which is founded upon a portion of section 78 of the English Highways Act, 1835, is to remove any doubts as to the way in which a Magistrate ought to deal with a person who obstinately refuses to give his name and address.

THE RESERVATION OF SUNG WONG T'OI.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the reservation of certain land at British Kowloon as Sung Wong T'oi or Sung Wong T'ong was passed.

THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Dogs Ordinance, 1893, was passed.

The object of this Bill is to enlarge the power to make regulations, which was originally conferred upon the Governor-in-Council by section 5 of Ordinance 9 of 1893, in such a way as to authorize the Governor-in-Council to make regulations relating to the importation of dogs. It seemed advisable at the same time to increase the maximum penalty which could be imposed under section 6 of that Ordinance from ten to one hundred dollars, which latter fine is the maximum laid down in the Singapore and Malacca Dog Regulations. It seemed also desirable to specify a maximum term of imprisonment in default of payment of the fine.

THE REGULATION OF VEHICLES.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Regulation of Vehicles was passed.

The object of this Ordinance is to render compulsory in this colony the observance of the ordinary rule of the road and the proper lighting of vehicles at night, and this legislation applies to private as well as to public vehicles. Section 6 of the Ordinance is framed with the object of rendering less probable the occurrence of certain classes of street accidents which are due to negligence or recklessness.

THE LAW RELATING TO SOLICITORS.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Solicitors of the Supreme Court was passed.

The first twenty sections of this Bill, as will be seen from the marginal notes to them, correspond with the provisions of certain Acts of Parliament, relating to solicitor's costs, which are now in force in England but have not hitherto been extended to Hongkong. Section 21 of the Bill is borrowed from a similar provision contained in the Straits Settlements Ordinances, and in the Statutes of some of the Australian Colonies, and its object is to prevent a solicitor, who has only newly arrived in the colony and about whose antecedents and character nothing is known, from setting up in practice on his own account. Section 22 provides for the payment by solicitors of a moderate fee on admission.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned until Wednesday, 1st Feb., at 3 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Acting Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were agreed to:—

A SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.

A sum of \$2,609, equivalent to £250 at 1/11, being contribution towards the proposed establishment of a School of Tropical Medicine in London and the institution of a travelling commission to enquire into Tropical Diseases.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY explained—As the financial minute shows, this vote is recommended on behalf of two objects, the first being a School of Tropical Medicine and the second the institution of a travelling commission to enquire into tropical diseases. It is proposed to establish a School of Tropical Medicine in London at which medical officers for the colonies may be given special instruction in the treatment of tropical diseases. The authorities of the Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich, of whose teaching staff Dr. Manson is a prominent member, have agreed to the establishment of such a school in connection with that institution. The estimated cost of the necessary buildings for the accommodation of the school is £3,550, towards which sum the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury have agreed to contribute £1,775 on behalf of the exchequer-aided colonies and protectorates on the condition that the British possessions concerned contribute the remaining moiety. With regard to the proposed travelling commission to study the subject of tropical diseases, it is estimated

that the total cost will be at least £5,000, towards which the Royal Society will contribute £600, leaving £4,400 to be contributed by the colonies interested. The total amount which these colonies are required to contribute towards the two schemes is therefore as follows:—School for Tropical Medicine £1,775; Malaria Investigation Commission £4,400; total £6,175. In view of possible unforeseen contingencies it is considered advisable to increase this sum to at least £7,000. The Government of Hongkong is requested to contribute the sum of at least £500, to be spread over two years.

THE FURNITURE AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.
A sum of \$5,000 in aid of the vote "Repairs to furniture at Government House."

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I simply have to say in explanation of this that the furniture at Government House is in such a state as I feel sure no person in this colony would like it to remain in.

THE ROAD FROM VICTORIA GAP TO MOUNT KELLETT ROAD.

A sum of \$2,438.67 in aid of the vote "Road from Victoria Gap to Mount Kellett Road."

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY explained—The estimated cost of the road was \$26,000. The actual expenditure was \$25,318.54, or \$681.46 within the estimate. In 1897 \$10,000 was voted and in 1898 \$12,900—making a total of \$22,900—but of these sums only \$2,879.87 was expended, leaving a balance due to the cost of \$2,438.67.

"EXTRAORDINARY PUBLIC WORKS."

The following sums being unexpended balances of the votes for 1898 under the heading "Extraordinary Public Works":—Water Supply, Kowloon \$3,251; Extension of Station Street, North, Kowloon \$3,902; City of Victoria and Hill District Waterworks \$2,046; Forming and kerbing streets to provide for extension of the City and Villages \$429; Waterworks, Miscellaneous \$3,873; Gaol Extension \$2,507; total, \$16,058.

The Committee then adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.

23rd January.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

MEUGENS v. HUTCHISON.

A. W. Meugens sought to recover from J. D. Hutchison, merchant, \$150 as wages due for the month of December. Mr. Manuk appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Ewens for defendant.

Mr. Manuk, in opening the case for plaintiff, said defendant was a merchant carrying on business in Hongkong. On 1st November, 1898, he engaged plaintiff at a salary of \$150 a month as assistant for two months, after which an arrangement might be made whereby plaintiff would continue in defendant's employment at the same rate of salary. Everything seemed to have gone smoothly until 12th December, when it seemed the plaintiff was given some invoices to work up, and owing to a slight mistake in one of them defendant used the following words towards plaintiff, "It's a piece of d— impertinence your doing your work like that. A China coolie would do it better," or something to that effect. Plaintiff continued his work till one o'clock, when defendant went out. Plaintiff went out shortly afterwards, locking the office door and taking the key with him. He went home and wrote a letter to defendant, enclosing the key. The letter read:—"After the very insulting remarks you addressed to me this morning, I cannot continue to work in your office. I enclose your key herewith, and my address at present is as above." Defendant took no notice of that letter, and a week afterwards, on 20th December, plaintiff wrote another letter, in which he stated that owing to the insulting language used towards him by defendant he had abstained from attending his desk until an apology was forthcoming. This letter also received no answer. At the end of the month plaintiff called upon defendant to pay his salary by a letter delivered by his boy. Defendant refused to accept the letter. A registered letter was

afterwards sent to defendant which he also refused.

Mr. Ewens admitted that this statement was substantially correct, adding, however, that he had never heard before that a man could stay away because an apology was not forthcoming.

Arnold Walter Meugens said—On 12th December, the English mail having come in, I was at work on certain invoices. There were several orders of a similar character and it was a somewhat difficult matter to ascertain which was which, the counterfoils of the orders having been executed in a slovenly manner. Having arranged these to the best of my ability, I called the attention of Mr. Hutchison, and said "I think I have these correct, sir." Mr. Hutchison rose from his seat and came over beside me. Taking up the invoices and counterfoils he glanced through them, and addressing me in a very curt tone of voice said—"You have done it quite wrong. It is a d— piece of impertinence doing your work like that. A China coolie could do it better." He then took the papers off my desk, took them away and occupied himself about twenty minutes trying to sort these invoices out. He then rose and went out toiffin. Immediately he had gone out I rose and let the office, locking the door and taking the key with me. I went to my room in Thomas's Grill-rooms and wrote him the letter now in court. I received no reply to that letter. I did not go back to the office. I waited for a week hoping to hear from Mr. Hutchison but no apology was forthcoming. I addressed him again on the 20th, and received no reply. On the 4th January, I wrote him a letter and sent it by the hand of my personal servant, asking him to make out a cheque for my salary. My boy brought back the chit and said he refused to receive it. I then wrote him a registered letter.

In answer to Mr. Ewens, plaintiff said he did not think there was ever any serious complaint about his work. Defendant had occasionally reproved him for being slightly careless in small matters.

J. D. Hutchison said—I engaged defendant on November 1st for two months. He did his work very carelessly and inaccurately, and there were complaints almost every day. On the Friday or Saturday before the 12th December, I said to him that unless he threw himself more into the work and was more careful there would be no necessity to discuss his retention after the expiration of the two months' agreement. On the 12th, he had to sort out the orders for the indentors. It was a very simple matter. He was continually troubling me with idle questions. I told him I could place more reliance on the Chinese godown man.

In reply to Mr. Ewens, defendant said—Probably half-a-dozen invoices were placed before Meugens that day. I did not consider his feelings when I used the expression towards him. With the exception of the word "d—" I do not think there was anything wrong in the expression. I certainly should not have kept him in my office on a premium at the expiration of his two months' engagement. I was only too glad to be quit of the man.

Mr. Ewens observed that if a servant left before the expiration of his engagement he forfeited all right to the wages then due.

Mr. Manuk admitted that this was so unless there was a special and particular reason, as he contended there was in this case. He added that there were implied duties of employers to employ, and said that when a gentleman of education was united in service with a gentleman of education it was an implied duty that the one should behave to the other with the ordinary courtesy due to their respective positions. A servant might be dismissed for insolence and rudeness, and it was only a fair presumption that a clerk had justifiable cause for leaving when grossly insulting language was used towards him.

His Lordship—I take it an employer is justified in calling his man a fool.

Mr. Manuk—But he would not be justified in comparing him to a coolie.

His Lordship—I think you will find that your contention is not carried out here. Employers use very unlimited language occasionally.

Mr. Manuk observed that when the friction was over the employers generally apologised for their heated language.

His Lordship—Your client did not give a chance for the friction passing over; he went away.

Mr. Manuk—No; he sat there. He used every control of himself. He did not even answer him.

His Lordship—If he had answered him he might have been turned out then and there.

Mr. Manuk—The English common law does not allow a master to abuse his servant or to use expressions of abuse and insult towards him.

His Lordship—Then every employer of labour has broken that law.

Mr. Manuk—Then he is entitled to the consequences, whether these consequences always follow or not.

His Lordship—I do not say Mr. Hutchison was justified in using that particular word, but he was perfectly justified in telling him what he thought of his work. The evidence before me is that the man was not worth his salary, and I am not surprised he was talked to in "d—," and that is only a figure of speech. If he is confident the Chinese godown coolie could do the work, I do not see why he should not say so. It may be unpleasant, but he is quite justified in correcting a servant for incapability or ignorance of his work. If he had been an apprentice he was entitled to correct him with a stick.

Mr. Manuk—The whole expression is most insulting.

His Lordship—If a man cannot do his work better than a coolie his master is quite entitled to tell him so.

Mr. Manuk quoted cases to prove that a servant was quite justified when grievously insulted by his master to dispute his master's commands.

His Lordship, without hearing Mr. Ewens, said he was of opinion the man dismissed himself, and, therefore, under the general common law he was not entitled to his salary. Judgment for defendant.

Mr. Ewens did not ask for costs.

THE CHINESE WILL CASE.

A SETTLEMENT.

After having been before the Court on nine different days—January 5th, 6th, 7th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 23rd, and 24th—a settlement has been arrived at in the case of Leung Hing Sung v. Leung Ngan Pan, the Chinese will case. Plaintiffs' case was concluded at 12 o'clock on Tuesday morning, and Mr. Robinson opened for defendant. At one o'clock the court adjourned with the intention of resuming at two o'clock. In the meantime, however, counsel held a conference with a view to arriving at a settlement. The conference lasted an hour and a half, at the end of which time it was announced that a settlement had been arrived at in the following terms:—

- 1.—Plaintiff's will to be withdrawn.
- 2.—Defendant to renounce probate of his will.
- 3.—Letters of administration with defendant's will annexed to be issued to Bruce Shepherd by consent of all parties, and at the conclusion of administration, estate to vest in Bruce Shepherd as trustee of the trusts of the will.
- 4.—Costs of all parties to be taxed as between solicitor and client and to be raised and paid out of the estate, including the costs of proceedings in common form.
- 5.—This settlement to be without prejudice to any proceedings that plaintiff may be advised to take with reference to the Mee Kee business.
- 6.—In the administration of the estate Bruce Shepherd's decision as to the amount of maintenance and marriage portions to be allowed to the widows and daughters to be final and without appeal.
- 7.—Bruce Shepherd to have full powers to sell or mortgage for any necessary purpose.
- 8.—Bruce Shepherd to be allowed 5 per cent. on the full income of the estate by way of remuneration.

The settlement is signed by the counsel:—Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and the Hon. H. E. Pollock for plaintiff, the testator's widow; Mr. E. Robinson and Hon. Dr. Ho Kai for defendant, the testator's brother; and Mr. Slade, for the interveners, the testator's grandmother, mother, stepmother, and concubine.

This settlement was approved by the court.

PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

On Friday, 20th January, pirates boarded the West River steamer *Kwong Shen*, on the upper river, as passengers, and shortly afterwards rose and in the usual manner took charge, robbing the crew and passengers of all valuables in their possession. Here they got about \$2,000 in cash and a quantity of jewelry and silk clothing. They then, with a steamer in their possession, turned their attention to capturing other vessels, and succeeded in boarding and overpowering the West River steamer *Lee On*, where they were more successful in obtaining plunder, for they netted from her \$8,000 in cash and more jewelry and silk clothing. They after that proceeded down river, passing Kum-chuk in the afternoon, and continued down river towards Macao. Their movements after passing Kum-chuk have not been recorded. The piracy took place somewhere between Shuihing and Takhing and between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m.

On Tuesday morning, 24th January, at about 3 a.m. the West River steamer *Kwongsoo* was pirated in the neighbourhood of Kongmoon. The West River steamer *Saikong* passed her in the river and was hailed by cries that there were pirates on board and appeals for assistance. The captain of the *Saikong* tried to follow and shots were fired, but whether at her or at people on board the *Kwongsoo* does not appear very clearly, as the crew of the *Saikong* would not follow up and the *Kwongsoo* made off, the pirates evidently being in possession. Further details as to what transpired on board the vessel pirated are not to hand but will probably come to hand later.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

During the last three months there have been no less than seven or eight cases of piracy on board the small steam craft plying on the West River and in one case where resistance was offered, by a native captain, the man was shot down and horribly mutilated in order to terrorise peaceful voyagers and render resistance less likely. In no case so far has a vessel with foreigners on board been molested but if the scoundrels who perform these depredations are going to continue to go scot free there is little doubt that it is only a question of time, and sufficient inducement in the shape of an ample cash prize, when we will hear of a daring and successful raid being made on a foreign commanded vessel.

An analysis of the data available as to the past piracies points to one or two facts worth noting. First, that there are two centres of piracy, in the neighbourhood respectively of Takhing and Kongmoon, the one place being well up the river and the other near the outlet to the sea. Of course the whole river and its navigable tributaries are afflicted with the pest, but circumstances point to the above named two localities taking special prominence in piratical raids. Secondly, it may be noted that the pirates board the vessel at a distance from the point where their confederates are in waiting for them and that they divide and come on board at one or two distant points, as passengers, to allay suspicion. Thirdly, their constant escape from capture points either to the fact that the official yamen runners and soldiers are in league with them or to their total inability to maintain order in the area subject to these piratical raids.

It may be mentioned that the Loting district, watered by the Loting River, discharging into the West River almost opposite to the city of Takhing, is one of the greatest, if not the greatest, centres of piracy in the southern provinces. This river is navigable by light draft boats for a distance of fifty miles from its mouth (right up to the large business centre of Loting) though the distance overland is only about twenty miles, the course of the river being very winding. The merchants in this district, which is a large exporter of the valuable cassia oil, have to pay very heavy tribute to the pirates, in the shape of blackmail, in order to pass their exports and imports free of molestation down and up the river, and it is especially down, near the mouth of the river, that the pirates lay toll. This, within two or three miles of where several guard boats are lying, speaks for itself as to either the rascality or supineness of the officials entrusted with the duty of maintaining law and order, for Takhing is a large walled city and

there are sufficient troops in the neighbourhood to suppress raids if a real attempt is made to do so.

GERMAN BALL.

The City Hall was the scene of a brilliant and most enjoyable gathering on Wednesday night, when some seven hundred guests responded to the invitations issued for "A German Ball in the presence of Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia." Amongst the distinguished guests present, in addition to Their Royal Highnesses, were H.E. the Governor and Lady Blake, Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Seymour, Major General and Mrs. Gascoigne, and Major Sir John Carrington (Hongkong Volunteer Corps) and Lady Carrington. Orders had been issued that naval and military officers were to appear in full dress and with the many uniforms present, the handsome dresses of the ladies, and the effective decorations, the scene in the ball rooms while dancing was in progress was a very striking one. The general arrangements of the ball were on similar lines to those of other assemblies of the same kind—St. George's and St. Andrew's Hall being used for dancing, the library for the card room, and the theatre for supper—but the decorations were of course quite distinctive and the Committee who had charge of this department are to be congratulated on the admirable effect produced. Over the entrance was a transparency with the word "Willkommen," surmounted by a star in gas jets. The pillars in the vestibule were tastefully festooned and the balustrading of the staircase draped with the German national colours. On the first landing was a realistic representation of a lighthouse, flanked on the right by a large letter "H" (Prince Henry's initial) in electric lights and on the left by the letter "I" (the Princess's initial). On the ceiling was a large cross in bunting and a similar cross was hung on the upper landing. In the ante-room were portraits of the Emperor and Empress, of Frederick the Great, and of the beautiful Queen Louise, mother of the Emperor William I. In this room also was an interesting trophy composed of the German, British, American, and Japanese flags. At the head of St. George's Hall were busts of Her Majesty Queen Victoria and His Majesty the Emperor of Germany placed amidst a mass of pot plants, and the walls of the hall were tastefully decorated with flags, etc. In St. Andrew's Hall was a bust of the late Emperor Frederick, and a portrait of the late Prince Bismarck was hung in the passage. In the theatre the central feature of the decorations was the stage, which was filled with a beautifully arranged mass of palms and ferns, in the centre of which stood a large bust of the Emperor William I.

The following was the dance programme:

Waltz	..... "An der schönen blauen Donau."
Waltz	..... "Imbsa."
Lancers	.....
Pas de Quatre	.....
Waltz	..... "Ueber den Wellen."
Lancers	..... "Her Majesty's."
Polka	..... "Nues d'Oiseaux."
Waltz	..... "Yours Sincerely."
Washington Post	.....
Lancers	..... "Maid Marian."
Waltz	..... "Donau-Wellen."
Caledonians	.....
Polka	..... "Sängerlust."
Waltz	..... "Künstlerleben."
Waltz and Gall-op	..... "Schlittschuhläufer."
	..... "Lande mondaine."

The music was supplied by the Band of the *Deutschland*.

The following was the supper menu, the caterers being Messrs. Madar and Farmer:—

1.—Julienne Soup.	2.—Lobster Salad.
3.—Chicken Salad.	4.—Herring Salad.
5.—Quails in Jelly.	6.—Lamb Chops in Jelly.
7.—old Asparagus.	
8.—Roast Saddle of Mutton.	
9.—Roast Baron of Beef.	10.—Kobe Corned Beef.
11.—Roast Stuffed Turkey.	12.—Roast Capon.
13.—Boiled York Ham.	
14.—Wild Boar's Head, Stuffed.	
15.—Roast Pheasant.	16.—Roast Wild Duck.
17.—Game Pies.	
18.—Green Mixed Salad.	19.—Potato Salad.
20.—Mashed Potatoes.	
21.—New Potatoes and Parsley.	
22.—French Beans.	23.—Cauliflower.
24.—Gooseberry Tarts.	25.—Butter Sandcake.

26.—Assorted Cakes.
27.—Assorted German Pastry.
28.—Orange Jelly.
29.—Marshmallow Jelly.
30.—Blanc Manger.
31.—Vanilla Ice Cream.
32.—Coffee Ice Cream.

The following were the Stewards:

Cheese.	Fruit.	Coffee.
R. Abesser	C. W. Longuet	
A. Becker	R. Marten	
C. Beumann	J. Meier	
G. Binder	F. Meyer	
F. Bischoff	E. Nirow	
A. von Bohusiewicz	W. Nagel	
P. Brewitt	E. Niedhardt	
J. Brüggmann	H. Nölke	
A. Bune	J. von Oertzen	
T. Christiani	K. Oldörp	
H. Ehmer	G. Pappier	
W. Einstmann	Dr. E. Paulun	
G. Engel	B. Plasmcke	
A. Finke	Consul Dr. Rieloff	
A. Fuhs	C. Rockstrohen	
E. Georg	G. Rogge	
Dr. C. Gerlach	H. Rümcker	
L. Giesmann	P. Sachs	
J. Goosman	A. Sander	
C. F. Grossmann	A. W. Schellhass	
M. Grote	A. M. Schoenemann	
G. Harling	C. Schroeter	
A. Haupt	J. G. Schroeter	
C. Heermann	F. Schwarzkopf	
Vice-Consul Heinze	O. Schwencke	
O. von der Heyde	N. A. Siebs	
F. Höhnke	W. O. C. Spalckhaver	
J. Jebson	P. Stoppa	
J. H. Jessen	A. Struckmeyer	
H. Kammel	C. Thiel	
H. H. Kirch	E. Thönert	
W. Klose	W. von Uffel	
J. Lantz	J. Wacker	
T. W. Lehmann	P. Witkowski	
F. Lieb		

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE "OPEN DOOR" POLICY.

PUBLIC MEETING.

At noon on the 22nd Jan. a meeting was held at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of discussing the question of the "Open door" policy and passing resolutions thereon to be forwarded to Lord Charles Beresford. The greatest interest was taken in the meeting, and the promoters, of whom Mr. Ho Tung was one of the most energetic, are to be congratulated on the hearty response which the Chinese merchants and traders gave to the invitation to be present, some 1,500 people being in attendance, the room and adjoining yard being crowded. Mr. Lo Chi Tin (chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce) presided, and there were also present the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Messrs. O. Sullivan, Ho Tung (compradore for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.), Leung Shiu Kwong, Low Chi Shan (manager, China Merchants Steam Navigation Company), Lau Wai Chuen (compradore, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank), Lau Yau Pat (chief manager, Tai Shing Paper Mill), Ho Mei, Wong Ham Fuk (Godown Company), Ho Fook (secretary to the Chamber), Li Shing, Tam Tsz Hong, Yang Hin Pong, Chan Wah, U Him Hing, U La Woon, Lo Cheung Shui, Chow Pak Wan, Wei Lan Shik, Li Pak, Ho Ham Tong, Chow Ham Wing, Hu Fai Shan, U Pak Yu, Ip Oi Shun, Chan Chan Chun, Chan Chan Nam, Cheng In Tong, Lau Shan, Sin Tak Fan, Shee Po Shun, Chan Hew Wan, etc., etc.

Mr. Ho Fook read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then said:—Gentlemen, you have heard the notice convening this meeting read by Mr. Ho Fook. The notice had previously appeared in the newspapers, so that you know very well the purpose for which we are met here to-day. I think you have heard that the large and influential Chambers of Commerce in England some time ago decided to send a representative of their choice to China to see for himself and ascertain the condition of trade in this our large Empire. The gentleman whom the traders of Great and Greater Britain selected was Lord Charles Beresford. In due time the noble Lord came out here, and, as befits our country and our ministers, very cordial hospitality was accorded

to him wherever he went. Moreover, I think the representatives of our Government in all the ports he visited gave Lord Charles Beresford every facility to study the condition of trade as well as the state of our army. By our army I think you will understand it to mean the means of our defence against aggression and the preservation of our Empire and the stability of our Government. The merchants, too, in the various ports His Lordship called at shewed him by public speeches and by resolutions what was wanted for the retention and expansion of the trade between Great Britain and China. Now, you must have heard or read of the advantage the various assistance and information meant to the English Lord. If I might be allowed to express the opinion, you will think with me that Lord Beresford has most assiduously studied the situation, and on his last visit to Hongkong he addressed the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce and told the gentlemen forming that great mercantile association and also the Navy League what China's needs were. He also suggested the means by which those needs could best be attained. Gentlemen, we cannot doubt that Lord Charles was very earnest in his suggestions and recommendations as well as sincere in his remarks and friendly criticisms. The least we can do, therefore, is to put our shoulders to the wheel in order that what Lord Beresford has in his mind to do for the good of our country and ourselves may be well and speedily done. I think my age must give way to younger and more progressive minds, so that instead of addressing you myself on a series of resolutions which you will be asked to pass to-day, I will call upon my friend, Mr. Ho Tung, to address you now, gentlemen. Mr. Ho Tung should be able to do justice to the business we are here to transact to-day. He took part in all the public meetings held in Hongkong for the purpose of discussing the China Question with Lord Charles Beresford, and I think has studied the question himself so closely that we shall have much pleasure in listening to what he will now have to say. (Applause.)

Mr. HO TUNG—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I rise to move the following resolutions:—
 "1. Having closely followed with great and attentive interest and carefully considered what Lord Charles Beresford has said and done in China in connection with his recent mission on behalf of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, the Chinese Community of Hongkong here assembled are in accord with and heartily support the policy the noble lord proposes in regard to the 'open door' as regards commerce and also with regard to the reorganisation of the Chinese Army under the British. 2. That we recognise that the combined proposals, if carried out, will benefit China quite as much as England and other foreign nations, if not more, and we therefore hope that Lord Charles will be entrusted by the British Government with the carrying out of the views he has so clearly enunciated, as we observe that his efforts are directed to the benefit of both his country and the Chinese Empire and to the benefit of the trade of China and the trade of England and other countries. 3. That we recognise and make our cordial acknowledgments for the sympathetic manner with which he has come to China. 4. And that we desire to emphatically express our full confidence in Lord Charles Beresford, whose ability, integrity, and zeal, we are sure peculiarly fit him to successfully carry out the proposals he has made for the furtherance of trade and the preservation of the Chinese Empire." Gentlemen, you have heard the series of resolutions I have just read; and I beg now to make some remarks in reference to them. I make no apology for addressing you at some length, as I propose to do, on the subject of the resolutions before you. On the present occasion I do not think that I should, as the mover of the resolutions, propose them in a merely perfunctory manner. You will agree with me that the occasion calls for much more. I do not think that as commercial men, as men of business, resident here with extensive commercial relations with the nations of Europe and America, there has ever been a similar opportunity, before, for us to be heard by the English nation. Not, indeed, that we wish to place any grievances before them, but that we desire, in connection with Lord Charles Beresford's recent visit to

the Farther East, to be better understood as regards each other in the matter of trade, for which purpose we are here in this colony. It was a happy thought on the part of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Great Britain that promoted a commercial mission to China. And it was a happier thought still that the choice of a commissioner fell on Lord Charles Beresford; for as is expressed in the last of our resolutions the noble Lord is possessed of ability and the power of observation which so eminently suit him for such an important mission. Gentlemen, if I might refer to a matter of history, I think that by the present commercial "embassy" we are reminded of the great commercial political embassy—the first of its kind—undertaken by Great Britain—just over a hundred years ago. You will, of course, know that I allude to Lord Macartney's embassy to China in 1792. The idea of this latter embassy was conceived by several of the East India Co's agents employed in the China trade, in those days the monopolists of that trade, who "suggested the propriety of an embassy to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China (Kienlung) the grandson of that most worthy of Chinese Emperors Kanghe, to represent their situation, in the hope that he might issue orders for the removal of grievances under which they laboured." The trade between the subjects of the two countries amounted even then to some millions sterling annually. It was represented that then, as now, notwithstanding the practical commercial tendency of the nation the Government adopted a different theory. "There was little scruple," Sir George Stanton writes, "in laying restrictions on foreign trade, the Government of China not being impressed with any idea of its importance to a country including so many climates, and supplying within itself all the necessities, if not all the luxuries, of life." While a more modern writer expresses the opinion that in China "there are laws and bye-laws without end, hindrances, prohibitions, regulations, filling ponderous volumes, to abridge the liberty of the subject in disposing of his goods and chattels to the best advantage." As I said, gentlemen, it was to remove the obstructive and oppressive exactions at Canton in the old days and pave the way for fair competition that the King of England resolved to send the first embassy to China. What the result of that mission was history tells us. No attempt was made to alter the then existing system and the King of England was also informed by the Emperor of China that the Russians then only traded at Kiatcha, and had not for many years come to Peking. Now let us pause and consider what the supineness of the Government availed the great mass of the Chinese people. I say "nothing." On the contrary, whilst being the most ancient people in the world and possessing the oldest civilization we are yet the most backward in regard to all that appertains to modern theory of, and practice in, trade. The inland trade at the close of the nineteenth century is but very little better than what it was towards the end of the eighteenth in spite of the fact that the admirable system of water communication the Chinese possess—the patient labour of the nation for more than two thousand years—threw open every avenue of the inland trade and made it practicable in every direction. At the same time as the various benefits Nature has conferred upon so great a nation has not been adequately utilized, great inroads have been made into the Chinese territory. A century ago Kienlung wrote to King George III. that the Russians were then trading only at Kiatcha. What is their position to-day? We cannot be blind to the fact that they have approached within dangerous proximity to Peking, and the completion of their great Trans-Siberian Railway may augur the advent of many evils political and commercial. The integrity of the Chinese Empire may be imperilled. We are sure that the Russians are not the advocates of the "open door" policy. A protective tariff is what they will seek to impose. Hence the danger that the Government might be tempted in relenting to a "differential treatment" to the prejudice of trade with the other nations, principally with Great Britain. If England suffers, the greatest volume of our trade being with that country, we shall be sufferers to the same extent. Now is our opportunity, gentlemen, to ward off the

impending evil. We know from all these years of our residence in Hongkong what the benefits of an unrestricted and unhampered trade means. It means profit with safety to those engaged in it; it means occupation and the means of livelihood to the people, and its inevitable result—happiness to the masses. We must confess that the masses in China are not above need and that their means of happiness is not rendered so general as it might be with a more extended commerce. Lord Charles Beresford's recent investigations disclosed to us that what China stands most in need of with reference to trade is the adoption of the "open door," and with reference to preservation of the Chinese Empire in its integrity a reformed army. We must admit, however reluctantly, the weakness and inability of China by herself to reorganise her fragmentary army. That she must have an army of sufficient importance to enforce the laws of a reformed fiscal administration is an axiom we must accept from the mouths of experts on the subject. Since, therefore, she is unable by her own efforts to reorganise her army let her have by all means the willing assistance of a friendly nation, and let that nation be the English. By tradition England is the most eligible to be called in in China's aid. The magna charta of her established friendship to the Chinese is inscribed in the letter the Earl of Macartney bore with him to the Emperor Kienlung. The inscription is contained in the words "The national disposition of a great and benevolent sovereign such as your Imperial Majesty whom Providence has seated upon a throne for the good of mankind is to watch over the peace and security of his dominions, and to take pains for disseminating happiness, virtue, and knowledge among his subjects extending also the same beneficence with all the peaceful arts as far as he is able to the whole human race. No time can be so propitious for extending the bounds of friendship and benevolence and for proposing to communicate and receive those benefits which must result from an unreserved and amicable intercourse between such great and civilized nations as China and Great Britain." In suggesting therefore that China's army should be organised under the English I think that it will be seen that, apart from the nation's friendliness, they have furnished examples both in India and Egypt that should satisfy even the most sceptic minds. I do not think, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, that I need expatiate on the personal qualities and ability of Lord Charles Beresford. Those of us who have not heard but have read his utterances on the great China Question must have been convinced of Lord Beresford's singular earnestness of purpose. I therefore ask you, gentlemen, to pass the resolutions I read before I began to address you in the hope that effect might be given to them by those in whose power it is to effect them for China's good, for the good of the country and its people, and for the permanent good of those who come after us. (Applause.)

Mr. LEUNG SHU KWONG—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, as the chairman justly remarked when calling upon Mr. Ho Tung to address the meeting that that gentleman would do full justice to the subject matter of the resolutions before you, I think that, after hearing the exhaustive and able speech of Mr. Ho Tung, every one must agree that the views he has expounded upon the object and purpose of the recent visit of Lord Charles Beresford to China are correct. Mr. Ho Tung has, moreover, addressed us on the subject of early British intercourse with China and the knowledge we have just now acquired will in my opinion assist us in a large measure to pronounce our verdict upon the friendliness of England to China. That verdict, gentlemen, can be no other than one of perfect unanimity with the spirit of the resolutions. Some few of us have had the privilege of spending a portion of our lives in the British metropolis. Fortunately I have been one of the lucky ones who have enjoyed that privilege. I may say that during my stay in England I had many opportunities to study the earnestness of purpose which characterizes every movement amongst the English for the common weal. I personally was most strongly impressed by the earnestness which, I think, accounts for much of the success and the greatness of the English nation to-day. It is said that on their empire

the sun never sets. By this we can understand the size and the magnitude of the British Empire. We the Chinese people can likewise boast of a very vast empire. But within recent years there have not been wanting evidence to show that efforts, internal and external, have been strenuously directed towards the dismemberment of our great country. It is a sad and piteous sight to behold the Chinese empire depicted as a dead carcass with hungry wolves prowling about showing their ravenous fangs ready to tear away every member of the dead body as soon as their neighbours relax their vigilance over it. Yes, gentlemen, figuratively speaking our empire has been so represented and spoken of. We, as individuals and communities, represent the integral parts of the Chinese Empire as a whole. Lord Charles Beresford has come out to study as we are told the conditions of trade, but in that study he has discovered that the first step to be taken is the reorganisation of our army in order that our trade may be expanded; for, as he remarks, without the means of enforcing the laws governing trade, of what use will it be to devise means to enlarge it? We are one and all so largely interested in the development of our trade with the countries of Europe and of America, that, I think, it devolves upon us to strain every nerve to give his proposals a fair trial. Since we cannot by ourselves induce Lord Charles Beresford to aid us in the manner he is convinced he is able to do, we can at any rate, by expressing our emphatic approval of the series of resolutions Mr. Ho Tung has moved, transmitting them to Lord Charles Beresford and asking him to place them before his government, have a chance of making ourselves heard to the advantage of our trade, of our government and ourselves. With these remarks, gentlemen, I am happy to second the resolutions in their entirety. (Applause.)

Mr. LEW CHI SHAN—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I presume most of the gentlemen present at this meeting have heard a good deal about Lord Charles Beresford's mission and his suggestions concerning the China trade. We have to-day listened with great pleasure to the speech made by Mr. Ho Tung, who has for his object the further increase and development of the China trade. Being closely connected with one of the principal shipping firms in China—I mean the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, which I have the honour to represent in this colony—the China trade has for years been engaging my serious attention. We find that the business in nearly all the sea port towns in China has increased in recent years, and if anything could be done to further increase the China trade the result no doubt will benefit not only the Treaty ports but the inland towns as well. Any movement good for the development of our trade will have my cordial support. (Applause.)

Mr. LAU WEI CHUEN—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, we have successively heard the advocates of Lord Charles Beresford's scheme in regard to China from the merchant's, the comprador's, and the shipping gentleman's point of view. I beg to add a few words from the banking man's standpoint. Gentlemen, the great financial institution known to us as a "Bank" among the foreign nations with its complex yet admirable system of ramification in branches and agencies all over the civilized world is an establishment devised altogether by the great economists of Europe. Yet, we have not been slow to accept and take advantage of it as a most wonderful organisation by means of which we are enabled to conduct our trade with the outside world—and even within our own Empire—with so much ease and security. We are thus afforded a very patent fact in our everyday life that however good our own methods of doing things might be they are, nevertheless, capable of improvement. Drawing the comparison, therefore, closer to the policy proposed by Lord Charles Beresford in respect of the economic condition of our country, we might be inclined to think that though, as at present conducted, our system of collecting revenue was good enough for the days of our ancestors, we must recognise that very great changes have been made since then amongst those nations who to-day occupy the foremost position in the public mind. Now, gentlemen, let me be clearly understood. Although I say that our system of collecting

the revenue may be changed with advantage (and this remark applies with greater force to the inland revenue), I do not wish for a moment to insinuate that our country does not occupy a very high position in the rank of nations. I say, and I say so forcibly, that by the providence of God China was given in Creation all the vastness of resources and the greatness in the number of its people which will for all time command respect. With this conviction in our minds, it behoves us, as sons of this great country and as members of this immense community of 400,000,000 people, to do all we can to acquire the good for our people which follows trade conducted in a fair and honest manner. In my own humble opinion I think that by seconding Lord Charles Beresford's efforts we can do the good I suggest and with modern banking facilities throughout our empire I trust, that profits from trade will yield benefits a hundred fold more than they do now. Let us remember that "times change and we change with them." (Applause.)

Mr. LAU YAU PAU—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have heard Mr. Ho Tung's remarks to-day with really much interest. I can hardly add anything to what that gentleman has said in order to invite attention, inasmuch as it is useless to "paint the lily, or gild refined gold." The various points touched upon, we must all confess, are of such vital importance to the welfare of our country generally and to international trade that one and all of us here should cordially give them due support in order to attain the desired end. For the past few years, the common topic of every day talk of the European community has been the two great questions, viz., "Open door and spheres of influence in China." Well, we are not concerned with the latter. Apart from China one might safely say there is no other country in the world that offers itself for such discussion, which claims everywhere so much attention from both politicians and intellectual men of the commercial class. We as sons of China may be loath to join issue in the same talk for various reasons, but the situation is such that it is only imperative that we should modify a little of our traditional ideas. I say, gentlemen, we must do it, not so much for the sake of benefiting any other people more than ourselves. As Lord Charles Beresford rightly said, "if he were a Russian, he would have done more than the Russians; he did not blame them in pushing forward for their own gain." I may be rather selfish when I say to modify one's ideas not to better other peoples' condition, but I have the consolation in believing that the same noble Lord would at least agree with me in the main, if he were placed in my position at the present juncture. Affairs in China as a whole are far from being satisfactory, and that unsatisfactoriness, it should be admitted, has been brought about by ourselves! For propriety's sake I might be excused from detailing all the causes (which by the way are so numerous that it is not at all an easy matter to enumerate them without involving the loss of much time to the disgust of my hearers). Suffice it to say that the condition of the country is what I have represented, and the first thing that we have to do is to look for some effective remedy to prevent its going from bad to worse. What is that remedy? There can be but one answer and that is "outward assistance" or "internal reform." Some people are apt to conclude that given the time, we Chinamen can well manage our own affairs; we can set our house in order, without interference; we have the tact and ability to carry through anything just as well as any other people, and what is the use of inviting meddling assistance which would simply be detrimental and disastrous to our internal life and property in the end? Well, that is quite true in one sense. As Chinamen, we might like to cherish the illusion but we should not merely cherish it we should all exert our very best to secure our position of freedom before doing anything else. Let us trace the course of our modern history. Before they could crawl our statesmen attempted to leap and they have constantly clamoured for drilling troops, building ships of war, opening mines and running railways; our literary men have started all sorts of leagues to improve the education of the country, and our commercial experts, &c., in money making have left no stone unturned in the keen race of competition.

I dare say we have done too hastily almost everything that could be done, only where is the good result? For half a century or more, we have drilled troops and built ships of war only to be annihilated, opened mines for the benefit of the favoured few, laid down railroads to be taken up immediately, started all sorts of leagues to be instantly suppressed and be made the laughing stock of the whole civilized world; and for the credit of the commercial or industrial class, nothing worth speaking of. I may be accused of being indiscreet to dilate upon all these weaknesses, but they are facts and who can be so blind as not to see them for all these years? I do not propose to call for endless evidence in support of my remarks re the present state of the country's helplessness as being purely self-created, yet there is one cause to which nobody should for one moment rest himself as entirely oblivious. The crying evil, in fact the greatest of all the national drawbacks, is the quality which for convenience sake I should call self-deception. We all know perfectly well that the country taken as a whole stands sorely in need of something to re-establish its prestige in the eyes of the world, and yet how very few of us would admit the fact manfully and frankly. Now, gentlemen, to return to the point. Mr. Ho Tung has kindly told us in his emphatic way that the Associated Chambers of Commerce in England hit at the very happy idea in deputing Lord Charles Beresford to visit China the last few months, about his Lordship's intention of what to do when he returned home, and that the passing of the several resolutions proposed is materially essential, in that much common interest for both the Empires of Great Britain and China depend on the final issue of the same. For all the reasons that I have stated, I must say that I fully concur with him. I cannot deceive myself by pursuing in the illusion that we need no such assistance. I say that without it we are far from being able to set our house in order yet. Though the open door may not be for our immediate gain, it cannot but be so in the long run, especially in that its introduction is proposed in combination with a reorganised army which is a preliminary step to all other points of reformation at present most required by ourselves. Again, speaking as a man engaged in an important industry, that of supplying the material for the dissemination of knowledge, through the medium of the Press, I can see in my mind's eye the unmistakable multifold benefit to be derived from the scheme in the near future. Fancy a place as large as Europe properly policed and well laid out at once thrown open to the numerous paying and yet undeveloped industries without the many restrictions and hindrances as experienced heretofore. The change can better be conceived than described. Competition naturally will be keen in turn, but what matters? See the enormous amount of willing capital that will inevitably flow in freely for the good of the poor masses when the country's peaceful prospects are everlastingly insured. Gentlemen, the open door together with the reorganised army of our country under the friendly British guidance if I am not mistaken is sure to be one of the greatest sources of our fellowmen's happiness in the long run, and in this connection I have the greatest pleasure in supporting the resolutions and would respectfully call upon you to pass the resolutions unanimously. (Applause.)

Dr. HO KAI and O MEI also supported the resolutions, which on being put to the meeting were carried unanimously.

Mr. WONG KAM FUK—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I beg to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and the various speakers in which I trust you will all join. In future if there are any matters connected with commerce, I hope that you will come here and discuss them, so that every one may derive benefit thereby.

Mr. LO CHEUNG SHUI seconded, and the motion having been carried the proceedings terminated.

It is notified by advertisement that the Dove Rock whistling buoy, which broke adrift on the 11th January, has been temporarily replaced by an ordinary red and black chequered conical six-foot buoy.

PHILIPINO LEADERS INTERVIEW BY CONSUL WILLIAMS.

THEY WILL BE SATISFIED WITH NOTHING
SHORT OF INDEPENDENCE.

The last mail from Manila brought information that a deputation of the Radical leaders of the Cabinet now in power at Malolos waited upon Consul Williams at Manila the other day and informed him that they wished him to know that they intended to have independence with or without Aguinaldo, and that nothing which could be said or done would affect them in the least. They added that if Aguinaldo or any other Filipino leader got in the way he would be put out of the way, as no one man's life could stand in the way of their desires. It has been circulated among the Filipinos that the Filipino Commission has simply been appointed by the President of the United States in order to maintain the status quo until more troops and ships can arrive—that in fact the Commission as a commission is nothing but a blind.

THE SITUATION AT ILOILO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Iloilo, 13th January.

At Iloilo the situation is very little changed. The great activity of the last ten days in fortifying the city is now almost unnoticeable, probably because the Filipinos have done all they can. Guimaras Island, just opposite Iloilo, is being filled up with natives from Panay, who are throwing up entrenchments all along the high cliffs. The Americans are supplied with water from Guimaras and do a little buying from the natives, but small parties only are permitted to land. With one or two exceptions the foreigners are all out of the place and for the time living on the sailing ships and small lighters anchored off shore. They are all safe and their goods have been taken out of the city, so beyond the loss of time and money, nothing is in danger. Many meetings have been held between the Americans and natives and a better feeling is growing, as the natives are anxious to learn of the American system of government, taxes, and so on. They have given permission for the American officers to go ashore and return at pleasure, provided no fortifications are approached. They still adhere to their first proposition that without instructions from Aguinaldo they cannot act, and they pledge themselves to act according to his wishes even if it be to give up the city. For the destruction of the city they care very little, as it is owned almost entirely by foreigners.

In a conference with General Miller on January 9th President Lopez very clearly expressed his position as follows: The Council of State of the District of Bisayas sees itself between the authority which the United States pretends to impose and the authority of the Central Government at Malolos. The supposed authority of the United States was born in the Treaty of Paris, 10th December, 1898, while the authority of the Central Government at Malolos, besides being founded upon sacred ties of blood, language, customs, and sacrifices, is founded principally upon our political constitution, which was born with the Revolution and has shown itself in all its steps, and finally the authority of the Government of Malolos over us is dated from a time much anterior to the treaty of Paris. Now how, American General, can we respect with preference the authority of the United States, born with the Treaty of Paris, of which we have not been legally informed, over the legitimate authority of Malolos founded upon deeds of conquest previous to the treaty of Paris and on the national ties created by the politics and constitution established from the first moment of the Revolution, 11th August, 1896?

In answering this, General Miller stated the claims of the United States due to conquest on land and sea at Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines, and their final recognition by the treaty with Spain. He stated that the Filipino Republic had never been recognized by any nation and could not be by the United States. In conclusion he regretted the determination of the Filipinos to oppose the just rule of the United States.

If there is any weakening there are no signs visible at present. The foreigners say that the

natives have reached a state when some action must take place immediately or the town will be destroyed and the whole population escape to the hills. The strain is proving a little more than they can bear. However, as far as can be ascertained, in spite of these warnings the machinery of the native government and military seems to be running as smoothly as on the day the Americans arrived.

STEAM LAUNCHES FOR U.S. SERVICE AT MANILA.

On the 23rd January three steam launches, left Hongkong, for Manila. They have been purchased by a Mr. Robinson for the American Government, and will be used at Manila in its service. When they arrive there, they will be renamed. At present they are known as the *Karshun*, *Leefat*, and *Kumhing*. The former is a boat of 70 tons, is 70 feet long, with 14 feet 2 inches beam, and a draught of 6 feet, has compound condensing engines, ordinary marine boilers of about 110 lb. steam pressure, and can be run at a speed of 10 knots. The *Leefat* will be captained by Mr. Hatley. She is a 90-ton boat, 77 feet long, 14½ feet beam, with 8 feet draught, and her speed is about 9½ knots; her engines and boilers are new. The *Kumhing* is the largest of the three, and will be taken down by Captain Walls. She is a 100-ton boat 87 feet long, 14.7 beam, 8 feet draught, and will go 11 knots. About 90 tons of coal are stored on the three boats, and, if all goes well, they should arrive at Manila in five days. In case of rough weather, half whale-backs have been fixed fore and aft on each boat.

REVIEWS.

Chinese Porcelain. By W. G. GULLAND, with Notes by T. J. LARKIN. London: Chapman and Hall, Limited. 1898. [Hongkong: Kelly and Walsh, Limited.]

A GOOD deal has been written about the Ceramic Art as practised in both China and Japan, but nevertheless very little is actually known or understood of either. More especially is this the case with regard to Chinese porcelain, and there are many collectors in a small way of this ware who have but the faintest idea of the mysteries, motives, and scenes which the seemingly grotesque figures and apparently mythical monsters depicted on vase, bowl, or plate portend, signify, or represent. Most persons are aware that ceramics have been known in China for centuries, and residents here are familiar with the claims put forward on behalf of many specimens frequently offered for sale as being Ming pottery, i.e., produced during the Ming dynasty, some centuries back. Our author is rather disposed to discount the antiquity of very much of the Chinese porcelain, but as he remarks in his preface, speaking of the age of the bric-a-brac we are apt to gather, "in a very short time now another century will have commenced, when it will seem all at once to be a hundred years older, which cannot but increase its value in the eyes of the world at large."

The volume before us seems to fulfil very well the conditions required from a guide to those interested in its subject matter. Commencing with a brief but useful chronological table, in which the first real rise of the industry in the Sung Dynasty (A.D. 900 to 1127) is traced down through the Yuan, Ming, and Tsing Dynasties, the work proceeds to deal with the history of the manufacture, and then proceeds to show how the art was affected by that of painting, by the religions, the history, the drama, the poetry, and the mythology of the Chinese people. The manufacture of porcelain is believed to have commenced during the Han Dynasty (206 B.C. to 25 A.D.) but for all practical purposes, the author tells us, if we except the celadon class (very pale green monochrome) it is unnecessary for collectors to concern themselves with anything earlier than the productions of the time of the Ming Dynasty (1368 to 1644 A.D.), while it is probable that most of the ancient specimens now met with only date back to the reign of the Emperor Kang Hi, of the present dynasty (1661-1722). As a matter of fact, very few pieces said to be of the Ming period are really genuine; they are for the most part clever reproductions of old patterns, and if the glass is

carefully examined, they will readily betray their extremely modern origin.

The first consignments of Chinese porcelain were made through Portuguese merchants at Macao early in the sixteenth century. Before the end of this century the Jesuits were established in China, and about the same period the English East India Company established a direct trade with China and amongst other products exported Chinese porcelain from their first establishment on the Persian Gulf at Gombroon. The ware was in consequence first known as Gombroon ware. From this time forward considerable quantities of Chinaware were exported to Europe, and the influence of the Jesuits in the suggestion of new colours and patterns is traceable in the ware after this era. It was, however, in the long and prosperous reign of the Emperor Kienlung that the greatest advance was made in the art.

The finest porcelain has always been retained in China, having been made for the use of the Imperial Palace. Vast quantities are made for the Emperor's use and for presents to officials. Good specimens of the five claw dragon ware are indeed only obtainable through their sale by mandarins to the dealers at the capital, from whence it filters southward. The principal factories are now as of old at King-ti-chen in the Yangtze Valley, some thirty miles from the Treaty port of Kiukiang. In 1722 there were said to be upwards of 3,000 furnaces at King-ti-chen, but these have been greatly reduced since, and the factories have not yet recovered from the destruction which overtook them during the Taiping rebellion. At the present time the most persevering efforts are being made to imitate all classes of old porcelain, and little attention is being paid to the production of new patterns or to the improvement of the ware. The Chinese of the present day are not original; they are only anxious, in porcelain, as in other things, to perpetuate the past.

Mr. Gulland has furnished chinomaniacs with an admirable guide in his exceedingly useful compilation. He gives a most interesting description of the symbols, emblems, and charms, the fabulous and other animals, the trees, fruits, flowers, and plants depicted, the colours, tints, and glazes used, and gives a useful list of the various marks stamped on the pieces, pointing out the value to be attached to these or otherwise as the case may be. There are no less than four hundred and eighty-five illustrations to the work, most of them being full page reproductions from photographs, admirably executed. We could have wished that these had been in colours, but of course the cost rendered such an idea out of the question. The possession of this volume will, however, enable collectors to find new beauties and greatly enhanced interest in their specimens. Designs that have heretofore been unmeaning and grotesque will, with the aid of Mr. Gulland's work, acquire a new interest and attain a value quite apart from the possible age or rarity of the pottery.

The Resident-Councillor. By Mrs. EGERTON EASTWICK. Singapore: Straits Times Press. 1898.

Mrs. EASTWICK's plot is ingeniously constructed and the story is told in a style that makes it a pleasure to read. The scene is laid in Penang and additional interest for Far Eastern readers is lent to the book by the accuracy of its local colouring, which, we may add, is always in good taste and not exaggerated. When it is necessary to describe a scene the word painting is done in a few clearly drawn lines; and there are no long disquisitions on social or moral problems to interrupt the easy course of the narrative. "The Resident-Councillor" is not a novel with a purpose, but simply an interesting tale of colonial life exceedingly well told. Local tales frequently possess an element of spite in their allusions to the social rivalries and jealousies that play so large a part in small communities, but we have failed to discover anything of the kind in Mrs. Eastwick's book.

The Resident-Councillor of Penang, the hero of the book, is a Mr. Bellairs, a bachelor, who has living with him a young half-sister, while a younger half-brother is a cadet in the service. It is perhaps hardly necessary to remind the reader that Penang, being part of the colony of the Straits Settlements, does not possess a Governor of its own, nor yet a Lieutenant-Governor, but in the

social life of the place the Resident-Councillor occupies practically the same position as if he bore one of the higher titles. The motive of the plot is the crossing of their respective loves by the two brothers, the highly respectable middle-aged Resident-Councillor and the reckless young Cadet. The principal female personage is a Mrs. Mainwaring, a woman with a past and over whose life the shadow of a tragedy rests, but whose personal character is unblemished, while her strong individuality enables her against great difficulties to play a prominent part in colonial society.

The following picture of how Penang impressed the Resident-Councillor may be taken as a specimen of Mrs. Eastwick's descriptive style as applied to social conditions:—

"Mr. Bellairs held the present progress, well-being, and even happiness of the little Settlement of which he was Chief Resident, deeply at heart. Penang attracted him by her island beauty, and appealed to him in other respects. The European community was not abnormally wealthy, and generally forbore from the vulgar worship of wealth; a mere superfluity of means proved no credential to its favour. In some respects he could have fancied himself in some Scotch or English township that clung to ways familiar; homely, perhaps, but not aggressive. He had already discovered that some of the more blatant features of colonialism and of modern society were absent; and the discovery pleased him.

"Husbands were not openly at a discount, and in many cases were known to be proud of and attached to their own wives, who reciprocated the feeling. This Arcadian simplicity pleased Mr. Bellairs, who had a fine taste and abhorred the vulgarity of evil assortment in such matters. At the same time he was conscious of a lack of that nervous vitality which aids the northerner to combat successfully the hostile influences of exile to the tropics. The place wanted the tonic of 'savoir vivre.' He was not himself dead to the miseries of nostalgia, and he fancied he read the signs of the malady to an almost pitiful degree in the white faces of the people around him, especially those of the women. It must be that they had not sufficient amusement; the cares of a household, when they existed, and the round of the golf links were insufficient to save them from pining and the consequence was ill health, which even a visit to the Hill was insufficient to restore."

This leads on to the projecting of a ladies' club, in connection with which the Resident-Councillor expresses opinions on a thorny question that was brought under discussion in Hongkong two or three years ago:—

"In some things," said Miss Bellairs, Tai-ping lends itself to imitation—the women are admitted to the Club."

"Humph," said the Resident-Councillor. His tone was not one of pleasure, but, by way of qualifying his unexpected lack of appreciation, he went on to explain—"I should have thought modern women were beyond being admitted anywhere on mere sufferance, unless you can return the civility. It is a club of your own that you want, with a really good committee—with men on it if you like."

"Nonsense," said Mrs. Mainwaring. "What would you say to a lady president in Northam Road?"

"I withdraw—it was a mere concession to—to your unaccustomedness at present; the gentleman who was so unlucky as to be elected might also withdraw when his usefulness was at an end. But as for mixing the sexes—a club is essentially a place of freedom and ease, both as regards manners and expression of opinion—of course, within the regulated limits; but neither is ever, I fancy, perfectly arrived at when the sexes meet promiscuously."

The club in due time is formed and is subsequently discussed in the following terms by two ladies:—

"One doesn't think so much of the heat when one is amused. And, really, the club on a wet afternoon is very pleasant—better than one's own house shut up against the weather."

"I have always found entertainment enough in my own home. What becomes of the 'home feeling' with all this mania for club life?"

"Oh! surely one gets plenty of 'home life' here—considering one can hardly ever leave the house before five! Papers, magazines, and a little talk or a game of billiards make one for-

get a lot of small worries. You should come one afternoon and try. Just the hour before dinner you know."

"Thanks no; I am too old for changes I think."

"In our new quarters we are to have electric light and plenty of punkahs; and really the tea-room and verandah are institutions; one can always take a friend in and have a nice tea for a trifle."

"Men? And can't you have anything besides tea?"

"If you like, and they like," laughed Mrs. Gardaine to both questions. "In the new house, the tea verandah will overlook the tennis ground and we are to have guests once a month."

"You do a little gambling already, I hear."

"We played whist, the other evening, at 10 cent points, if that can be called gambling. Miss Moriarty won three dollars. I see no harm in it. Every one bets a little at the races and higher stakes are not allowed. As for Miss Moriarty—her winnings will buy her gloves for the ball next week?"

The China Review, No. 3, vol. xiii. Hongkong: China Mail Office.

An article in the present number that every one will wish to read is "The Russians and Manchuria," by E. H. Parker. The author's conclusions on the international aspect of the question are summed up in the following paragraph:—

"It will thus be seen that, though the Russians have been hammering at the doors of Manchuria for 200 years, the first persons to explore it at all thoroughly were a British consular agent and two officers from the Indian army, twelve years ago. Except that Russian territory and Manchurian territory are continuous, Russia has no prior claims, and the commercial interests of Great Britain through Newchwang have been as great as those of Russia through the Sungari; so that Russia has no natural right whatever to circumscribe them. In fact, we ought to do all in our power to consolidate and increase them, both through Newchwang and through the newly-opened port at the mouth of the Pei-ta-ho."

Mr. Parker bulks rather largely in the present number, and also, it may be added, in his own estimation. In one of his sinological "Notes" he writes as follows:—

"I say what I say because I believe I have found out something. I feed the animals with a fish, so to speak, and cast it upon the waters for the said animals to swallow or squabble about as they may think fit. I am not to be 'drawn' in any way. Stanislas Julien and Gauthier made equal fools of themselves by their bloodthirsty and spiteful onslaughts upon each other, though every one can now see that Julien was the better sinological man of the two. In the same way Giles has always out a bad figure by the execrable taste of his attacks on Beal, Balfour, myself, Lockhart, &c., and that is why I occasionally amuse myself by teasing him a little. As a matter of fact, I am well aware that Giles, with all his faults, has a sneaking respect for me, in fact, he once wrote to me to propose a truce, adding that he and I together could stand against the whole world; to which I replied 'Just so; but we can do it without your assistance.' Both Mr. Giles and Mr. Fraser would pull a wry face if I got them into a corner far away from dictionaries and teachers, and said 'Now then, read that aloud; pronounce every word correctly in any dialect you take of your own choosing, give me a literal written translation on the spot, and tell me where literary points originally hail from.'"

It is well for every man to have a good opinion of himself, but it is not necessary to proclaim it from the house-tops.

A Triple Entanglement. By Mrs. BURTON HARRISON. London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1898.

THE leading idea of Mrs. Harrison's tale is indicated by the title. We have a fresh young English girl and two young men, one a very creditable specimen all round and the other highly gifted except as regards moral fibre, which is almost completely absent. Needless to say the girl falls in love with the wrong one, and the good young man, after years of weary waiting, and when all hope of winning his first love appears to have vanished, becomes

engaged to another lady. This is the triple entanglement that has to be straightened out. The plot is cleverly elaborated and the characters well drawn. The scenes in the earlier portion of the book are laid in Continental pleasure resorts.

Fights for the Flag. By W. H. FITCHETT. With Portraits and Plans. London: George Bell & Sons. 1898.

THE latest addition to Bell's Indian and Colonial Library contains, as might be inferred from its title and the name of the author—W. H. Fitchett ("Vedette"), author of "Deeds that won the Empire"—much interesting and exciting reading. Mr. Fitchett is a master of his craft and knows how to present a stirring scene in effective dress. What, for instance, could be better than the following in the chapter on "Famous cavalry charges":—

"Scarlett saw the huge mass above him, and outflanking him so enormously, draw to a halt, just as the dressing of his own lines was completed. His trumpeter rang out stern and clear the signal to 'charge,' and Scarlett himself, mounted on a horse of great speed and size, led against the enemy at a trot, which after a few yards quickened to a gallop. His troops, still hindered by broken ground, could not come on so swiftly, and there was the amazing spectacle presented of a red-faced British general galloping headlong and alone into a gigantic mass of Russian cavalry, his aide-de-camp, trumpeter, and orderly following hard on his rear, and more than fifty yards behind some 300 Greys and Inniskillings just getting into their stride. A horse sixteen hands high going at full speed with a white-whiskered British general on its back is a somewhat discomposing object as it approaches, and as Scarlett smashed in on the Russian front he saw the nearest of the hostile cavalry drop promptly off their horses for safety. Scarlett himself, flourishing his sword, drove deep into the Russian mass; Elliot, his aide-de-camp, a splendid swordsman, came next, and a Russian officer, sitting on his horse a few paces in the front of the line, struck furiously at him as he swept up. Elliot parried the cut, dropped his sword point to the thrust, drove it through the body of his antagonist, and, as the rush of his horse carried him onward, the Russian was literally turned round in his saddle by the leverage of the sword thrust clean through him. Then, as his sword was released, with a flash of the crimson blade, Elliot, too, broke through the Russian line."

With the *Centurion* as the flagship on this station special interest attaches to the record of doings of her namesake of a hundred and fifty years ago, in the chapter headed "Lord Anson and the *Centurion*."

"Anson," we are told, "remained at Macao till April 19, 1743; then, with ship refitted, though not remanned, and stores renewed, he set sail ostensibly for Batavia, and thence to England. But when out of sight of land he called his men aft, told them there must be two galleons sailing from Acapulco this year, and he intended to capture them both! Each galleon, it might be added, was double in weight of artillery and fighting force to the *Centurion*; but that circumstance Anson regarded as an irrelevant detail, to be dismissed without further consideration! Anson's men, hardened by suffering, and careless of peril, and full of confidence in their silent, much-enduring captain, welcomed the announcement with a shout, and the stem of the *Centurion* was turned towards the Philippine Islands, one of the way-marks in the course of the gold-ships of Spain. Anson's crew, at that moment, consisted of 201 hands, including officers, idlers, and boys; he had only forty-five able seamen. Each galleon, on the other hand, carried a crew of about 600 men. Anson warned his crew that the galleons were 'stout ships and fully manned'; but Jack Tar's arithmetic, when applied to the business of reckoning up an enemy's force, is of curious quality; and Anson's men felt as cheerfully confident of capturing the wealth of the Spanish treasure-ships as though the yellow gold were already in their breeches' pockets!"

For the account of what followed we must refer our readers to Mr. Fitchett's pages.

The Journalist. By C. F. KEARY. London: Methuen & Co. 1898. (Hongkong: Kelly and Walsh, Limited).

RICHARD VAUX is the name of the young journalist with whose fortunes the tale before us is concerned. The tale itself, however, is perhaps of less consequence than its setting. We are given a very full picture of the modern literary life of London, with its hurry and turmoil, its jealousies, successes, and disappointments; and we have many pages of dialogue, smart and otherwise.

Hope the Hermit. A Novel. By EDNA LYALL. London: Longmans, Green, & Co. 1898. (Hongkong: Kelly & Walsh, Limited)

MISS LYALL's hero is Michael Derwent, whose parentage for long remained a mystery, his mother having died in giving him birth at a farmhouse without disclosing her name, while the father afterwards carried off the infant and abandoned it. The child is found, however, and cared for by kind-hearted people, and when he grows up he is enabled by one or two clues to solve the mystery of his parentage and to establish his right to an estate. The period of the tale is at the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth century, and the political movements of the day are used to lend interest to the plot. The tale is a very pleasant one to read and will be found especially interesting by those who are familiar with Keswick and its neighbourhood, where much of the action is laid. The book is dedicated to the Rev. Canon and Mrs. Rawnsley, in memory of pleasant hours spent at Crossthwaite.

The Intruders. By L. B. WALFORD. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1898. (Hongkong: Kelly & Walsh, Limited).

A NOVEL from Mrs. Walford's pen is always welcome. There is little that is sensational in her tales, but her characters are mostly nice people whom the reader gets to like almost as though they were personal acquaintances, the narrative runs along easily and pleasantly, and it is with regret that the last page is reached. "The Intruders" are a brother and sister who, after the sister had had enough of relations' houses, London visits, and the usual routine of young lady-hood, and the brother had retired from the army, "agreed to see how they got on together." Accordingly they spend their time in travelling and enjoying themselves, until the brother suddenly conceives the idea that he would like a home. A suitable house in the country is therefore purchased and the pair settle down and become part of the society of the neighbourhood. Julian, the brother, although middle aged, has love affairs. Amelia, the sister, remains an agreeable old maid. The book is altogether a pleasant one and well worth reading.

General View of Commerce and Industry in the Empire of Japan. Published by the Bureau of Commerce, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Japan.

THIS little volume, giving brief outlines of the commercial and industrial state of the country, we are told in the preface, has been prepared mainly for the use of foreign visitors to Japan. It contains descriptions of the treaty ports and particulars of the principal commodities exported. The visitor to Japan who is at all interested in the trade condition of the country will find the book useful.

It is at present understood, though no official announcement has been publicly made, that the successor to H. E. Major-General H. J. Jones-Vaughan in the Straits command has been selected. This officer is believed to be Colonel Allan Graeme Raper, Assistant-Quarter-Master-General at the War Office, previously from a Regimental District. Col. Raper joined the service in February, 1862, getting his company in 1870, and his majority ten years later, Lt.-Col. in 1885, and took command of the 2nd Battalion North Staffordshire (98th Prince of Wales's) in 1887. Col. Raper has served on the North-West frontier of India in the Zhob Valley expedition.—*Singapore Free Press.*

SPELLING REFORM.

Mr. E. Robinson gave a very interesting address to the Odd Volumes Society on the 23rd January on the subject of spelling reform. His argument was that speech was the language and writing merely the representation of speech by symbols, and that we should have fixed symbols to represent the sounds. What the symbols might be was immaterial, but a particular symbol having been fixed upon to represent a particular sound it ought to be adhered to. The lecturer gave illustrations of the defects of the present system. Thus, the sound of the long "a," as in "great," was represented by no fewer than fourteen different symbols, that is, by different combinations of letters. Each of these symbols, also, had numerous different pronunciations, according to the connection in which they were used. Spelling reform did not involve any interference whatever with the language itself, writing being merely a mechanical device. In urging the advantages of reform the lecturer dwelt on the great amount of school time lost in learning to spell, an accomplishment which did not in any way enlarge the faculties or make a man wiser or better. The child at school in learning to spell had to rely on authority instead of using his reason. The loss of time involved in the study of this subject resulted in many children leaving school at a much lower standard than that which they would be able to reach were our system of spelling founded on rational principles. From this it followed that our workmen were not so well educated as they otherwise would be, and an educated workman being a greater force than an uneducated one, our industrial army was proportionately weakened. Spelling reform was therefore a question of national importance from a purely utilitarian point of view. English was the worst spelt language in the world.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, mentioned what appeared to him to be some objections to the proposed reform, chief amongst which was the consideration that it would render all our present books practically useless unless a person were acquainted with both systems of spelling and made a special study for the purpose of reading books printed according to the old system, just as we in the present day had to make a special study to understand Chaucer.

Mr. Robinson in acknowledging the vote of thanks briefly replied to Mr. Francis's objections and said that persons who used a reformed system of spelling would be perfectly able to read books printed according to the present system, though they would think the spelling peculiar; just as an educated person could read a letter written by an illiterate person in which the spelling was very bad.

COLONIAL VETERINARY SURGEON'S REPORT FOR 1898.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board on the 19th January the following report for the year 1898 was submitted by Mr. C. V. Ladds, Colonial Veterinary Surgeon.

IMPORTATION OF LIVE STOCK.

Since the autumn of 1897 foot and mouth disease has been raging over the whole of South China, and spreading rapidly from place to place invaded Tonquin, Cambodia and, I believe, the whole of Indo-China also. In the month of November, 1897, the disease appeared for the first time in eleven years in the colony and since then it has been impossible to stamp it out under the ordinary precautions which would be taken elsewhere.

Dependent, as we are, entirely upon the mainland for supplies, it would be impossible to prohibit the importation of cattle altogether, or the meat supply of the colony would be cut off, and, as the disease still remains general over all the districts from whence our cattle are drawn, it naturally follows that from time to time a few infected animals are brought in.

Therefore until the disease runs its course in the adjacent provinces it is impossible to prevent a few cases being landed occasionally in the colony, though much might be done to prevent its spread had we proper inspection lairs for cattle, of which I urged the necessity as far back as 1888.

I again referred to the matter in my annual report for 1892 mentioning an instance where an outbreak of rinderpest at Kobe once cut off the entire milk supply of that port; and here quote an extract:—"There is nothing to prevent a similar outbreak in Hongkong sooner or later unless something is done to provide a proper inspection lair to which all cattle should be driven directly upon landing there to remain at least 12 hours before being inspected and passed into the permanent depôts or elsewhere. This is the method adopted in the United Kingdom and other countries, and even then occasional cases of disease escape detection and so cause wide-spreading outbreaks which are difficult to check, hence it will be easy to understand the risk which is run here with no inspection lair at all."

During the early part of the year the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi were also over-run with rinderpest or cattle plague, which killed off large numbers of animals, and this, together with a rise in the value of rice, caused a scarcity of animals and higher prices; but the supply, though at times intermittent, was always equal to the demand.

It will be seen under the heading of "animal depôts" that the number of animals imported for slaughter during the year 1898 exceeded those for 1889 by 3,721 cattle, 5,846 sheep and goats, and 27,332 swine.

As most of these animals are brought from long distances to Hongkong it is desirable that an effort should be made to encourage the breeding of cattle and swine upon some parts of the extended territory when it is taken over, should suitable localities become available, though there might be many difficulties to contend with at first owing to the great reluctance of the Chinese to depart from the rigid rules of "old custom."

ANIMAL DEPÔTS.

With the exception of the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the cattle depôts the general health of the animals housed during the year was good.

The total number of cattle admitted into the depot at Kennedy Town was 21,611 and at the Hung Hom Depot 1,029.

In the swine depôt at Kennedytown 187,237 animals were admitted, and at Hung Hom 15,154.

At Kowloon there is great need of a small swine depôt, these animals at present being accommodated in part of the cattle depôt.

24,686 sheep and goats were housed at the Kennedytown depôt during the year.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Victoria and Kowloon.—These two buildings are both in a good state of repair and amendment and will meet all requirements for some time to come.

Shankiwan and Aberdeen.—Both these places are still without a proper slaughter house although section 8 of Ordinance 17 of 1887 reads that "a sufficient number of fit and proper slaughter houses to meet the requirements of the colony shall be provided by the Government."

I called the attention of the Sanitary Board to this matter as far back as 1890 in my annual report.

There is no doubt in my mind whatever that, in order to maintain a complete check upon the main source of the meat supply of the colony, the slaughter house at Kennedytown to be properly and efficiently managed should be under the immediate control of the Government and not leased out to a private individual as at present.

To prevent the slaughter of pigs in the roast pork shops of the colony, which at present prevails to a considerable extent, it is necessary to amend section 12 of Ordinance 17 of 1887 as pointed out to the Board in my letter dated 14th June, 1898.

The total number of animals slaughtered at Kennedytown, Kowloon, Shankiwan, and Aberdeen for the year ending December 31st, 1898, was as follows:—Cattle, 21,541; sheep and goats, 15,956; swine, 183,485.

In order to show the large increase in the annual number of animals slaughtered I insert below a list giving the total for the past ten years.

The decrease in the number of swine killed during the year 1894 I attribute to the plague epidemic of that year, and it will be seen that

its effects may also be traced into the two following years.

The number of swine slaughtered during the past two years points to a considerable increase in the native population of the colony during that period.

Annual list of animals slaughtered for the past ten years, from 1889 to 1898.

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep and Goats.	Swine.
1889	17,863	10,110	119,856
1890	18,519	10,091	123,833
1891	18,218	9,673	122,942
1892	18,180	11,571	126,766
1893	17,866	11,770	131,298
1894	16,898	10,937	125,725
1895	19,218	12,592	129,035
1896	19,546	14,693	123,103
1897	20,094	14,226	137,748
1898	21,541	15,956	153,485
Total	187,943	121,619	1,290,791

DAIRIES.

During the year two outbreaks of infectious disease occurred in the dairies of the colony.

On February 28th rinderpest or cattle plague broke out at the "Sassoon's Villa" premises of the Dairy Farm Company at Pokfulam. Most of the European breeds of cattle died, but fortunately the measures taken prevented the spread of the disease elsewhere.

I may mention in connection with this outbreak that I had an opportunity of treating the last case which occurred with serum prepared by myself, and am pleased to record that the animal recovered under the treatment.

From the result of my observations I am confident that, given the necessary appliances, etc., I could successfully combat an outbreak of this disease, and think that at least 90 per cent. of the animals infected might be saved if taken in time.

On December 22nd foot and mouth disease broke out on the premises of the East Point Dairy at Wong-nei-Cheong. The disease assumed a very mild type and up to the end of the year had not spread to any of the other farms.

In both cases the premises were declared infected areas by the Board under the provisions of Bye-laws Nos. 12 and 13 of schedule A of Ordinance 17 of 1887.

Although as far back as 1889 I recommended that no cow sheds be licensed by the Board within the precincts of the city, I regret to note that nothing has yet been done to consider or carry out my suggestion.

In my report to the Board dated 31st January, 1898, I went very fully into the subject of the milk supply of the colony, and pointed out that consumers would do well if, in protection of their own interests, they were to insist upon a guarantee from the dairy supplying them that they had given up the practice of purchasing milk from outside sources—that is to say, from native dairies—as the condition under which their milk is collected leaves much to be desired.

Native cow-keepers can never be brought to understand how very essential it is that the strictest sanitary principles should be observed when dealing with milk, nor can they. I am afraid, be ever prevented from adulterating it, which fraud, I am sorry to say, is now carried on to a very large extent.

Pure water added to milk—although constituting in itself an illegal act—does not render such milk harmful, but when it is known that the added water may possibly be polluted, then the danger of consuming such a mixture becomes great.

At the present time, as mentioned above, much adulterated milk is sold in the colony, and I think that if the Board's officers were to take more samples and submit them for analysis that much good might result to the milk consumers of the community generally.

To boil all milk before using it is the only real safeguard against the dangers of contamination.

MARKETS.

Central Market.—This building is in a good state of repair and amendment, and most of the shops and stalls are let.

Owing to increase of trade additional accommodation is required in the poultry section for killing and plucking fowls, etc. Vide my report to the Board dated 7th September, 1898.

The lighting of the market is very inefficient. Western Market.—The central position of this market has always made it a very popular one, and it supplies a large district. The articles of food sold therein are almost entirely for native consumption.

The building is old and cramped and does not at all meet present requirements.

In a report dated May 19th, 1891, the Board recommended that the market be rebuilt and somewhat later I believe plans were made by the late director of Public Works, Mr. F. A. Cooper, for this purpose, but nothing further was done in the matter.

I understand that arrangements are now being made to build a large new market upon a portion of the resumed area at Taipingshan to take the place of the present Western Market, which would be abolished upon the completion of the new one.

The Chinese generally, and more especially the present stall-holders in the Western Market, are unanimous in condemning this project, and I think not without reason when it is remembered that the old Taipingshan market—which was but a small one containing 74 stalls—had always more than half that number vacant from the time when I took over charge of the food supply of the colony in 1887 up to June 19th, 1894, when it was closed.

One of the chief objections raised by the Chinese is that the extra cost of conveying all the market produce so far up the hill to the new building would necessitate a higher scale of prices for food stuffs sold therein, and that they would not in consequence be able to compete successfully with stallholders in the other markets.

Another point is that instead of the market being situated as at present in the centre of a thickly populated district and fairly close to the harbour, it would then be removed to the extreme edge of that district up a steep hill, and as far away from the sea as possible.

Personally I am of opinion that the Taipingshan site as at present chosen is most unsuitable in every respect. A new market built upon the site of the present Western market, or even nearer to the sea might with advantage be erected to afford double the accommodation of the existing one, and even then all the stalls would not readily, but the prospects of one such as proposed for Taipingshan would, I think, be very poor indeed.

Saiyingpoon Market.—Might be re-built and extended with advantage.

Tai-kok-tsun Market.—Is a new building which was to be completed on January 1st, 1899.

Shankiwan Market.—This building is in a good state of repair and all the stalls are let.

In my annual report for 1889 I recommended that accommodation for at least thirty more stalls be provided, but the extension has not yet been carried out.

Sheklongtsui, Wanchai, Sokonpoo, Yanmat, and Hung Hom Market are all in a good state of repair and meet all present wants.

STAFF.

Inspector Fisher went home upon twelve months' leave on March 18th, 1898.

Inspectors Watson and Cotton are both deserving of the highest praise for the manner in which they have performed their duties during the year.

Owing to their zeal and vigilance several serious cases of infringement of regulations have been brought to light which might otherwise have remained undiscovered.

Much credit is also due to Overseer Johnson for the smart and cleanly condition in which he kept the Central Market during the year.

On April 19th I drew the attention of the Board to the fact that the close proximity of the Chinese Mortuary to the Inspector's quarters at Kennedy Town was at times, especially during the summer months, a source of considerable annoyance to the occupant of these quarters both upon sanitary and other grounds, and I believe that it was then decided that the mortuary should be closed but up to the present time it continues as before.

Watchmen.—These men have proved a continual source of trouble and dissatisfaction ever since they were first engaged for the markets in 1887. It being found after a long trial that they were useless in the markets, they were then drafted to the slaughter houses, but there they have proved an equal failure, hence my

decision after having tried about fifty of them, to recommend that their services be dispensed with altogether at the end of the year. Vide my report to the Board dated September 29th, 1898.

Market Coolies.—On May 11th, 1898, I forwarded a petition to the Board from the market staff of coolies, praying for an increase of salary and strongly recommending that their pay should be raised to that of ordinary market rates. Such men, being drawn from the poorer coolie class, readily obtain from \$7 to \$7.50 per month outside, whereas at least half my coolie staff only receive \$5 and \$6 a month. Hence it is obvious that the only men who join at all are very inferior ones, and they knowing that if they resign can immediately obtain situations at the same rate of pay, if not higher, elsewhere, are naturally unruly and insubordinate, and the work is not efficiently done in consequence.

A good deal of sickness was prevalent during the year amongst the members of the staff which I take it was due in a great measure to the nature of the duties required to be performed. I was also temporarily incapacitated from duty upon several occasions owing to attacks of tropical disease.

THE CITY HALL.

The annual meeting of shareholders in and subscribers to the City Hall was held in the City Hall Library on 23rd January. There were present the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving (Chairman), Messrs. H. L. Denny (Secretary), H. L. Dalrymple, H. N. Mody, B. Layton, N. A. Siebs (Committee), and Grayville Sharp.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts have been in your hands for some days and, as usual, I will ask you to accept them as read. Nothing of very special interest in connection with the City Hall has occurred since our last annual meeting. The institution is now in its thirtieth year, having been opened by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in 1869, and, although at times it has been found somewhat difficult to keep our expenditure within our income, we are now in a fairly strong financial position, though not yet able to make any return to shareholders. You will observe from the report that considerable repairs have again been necessitated to the woodwork of the building, and as it grows older we can hardly expect any decrease of expenditure in this respect. The recent improvements carried out in the Theatre gallery, as well as some other alterations in connection with the stage and the dressing room, the latter being required to ensure greater safety in the event of fire, have necessitated a certain outlay, which will have to be paid out of the current year's receipts, and the Committee have deemed it advisable to slightly raise the scale of charges for the Theatre; but I think you will admit that they are still very reasonable, taking the depreciation of the dollar into account. As you will see from the report, the Committee have also been obliged, owing to the enormous cost of living, to increase the pay of the servants engaged in the City Hall, so that a large expenditure under this head must be looked for in the future. With the considerable growth of the foreign population of Hongkong since the City Hall was opened the building is now quite too large for the purposes to which it is put, and it is doubtful how long the present accommodation for large social gatherings will prove sufficient. With reference to the Library and Museum, gentlemen, I will not detain you at any length, but the rooms devoted to the Museum are, I regret to say, not so suitable as one could wish, being dark and gloomy, and this, added to the difficulty of preserving natural history specimens in this climate, makes it difficult to keep the Museum as attractive as it otherwise might be. Nevertheless, as affording opportunity of exhibiting a good many interesting articles that have been presented, or lent, the Museum serves a useful purpose, although it may be of little use from a strictly scientific standpoint. The fact that it still continues to attract the Chinese is evidenced by the large number of visitors mentioned in the report. If anyone has any questions to ask with reference to the report and accounts, I shall be very glad to answer them.

The meeting then terminated.

COMMITTEE

THE STATE OF THE BUILDING.

During the twelve months from 1st July, 1897, to 30th June, 1898, the Theatre was engaged by the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club, The Philharmonic Society, the Smoking Concert Club, and the Amateur Dramatic Club of H.M.S. *Powerful*, as well as by the Brough Company, the Pollard Lilliputian Company, and others. As in former years the St. Andrew's Hall and other rooms have been put at the disposal of educational and charitable establishments for examinations, prize distributions, and bazaars, free of charge.

THE LIBRARY

MUSEUM.

during the twelve months ending 30th June, 1898, was 141,548, of whom 9,545 were not Chinese.

ACCOUNTS

The balance in the hands of the Honorary Treasurer on the 30th June, 1898, was \$2,742.21, as appears from the following account of receipts and disbursements. There is also a sum of \$12,520.88 on fixed deposit to the credit of the City Hall fund with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, which the Committee look upon as a reserve fund only to be drawn upon in case of emergency. Owing to the increased cost of living the employees of the City Hall have applied to have an increase in their wages and this item will therefore in future be somewhat larger than it has been in former years.

To balance in hands of Hon. Treasurer on 30th June, 1897, as shown in last report	\$1,310.31
To receipts from Theatre, St. Andrew's Hall, Ball Room, &c., &c.	6,898.64
To rent of Chamber of Commerce	600.00
To Government Grant for 1893	1,200 00
To interest on current account in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to 30th June, 1898	45.87

By wages for 12 months	\$3,348.00
By repairs and alterations	1,231.37
By gas	1,091.68
By electric light	321.84
By museum and office expenses	312.35
By insurance premia	701.00
By Government fire brigade	122.75
By water	80.60
By balance	2,742.22
	<u>9,952.82</u>

J. J. BELL-IRVING, Chairman.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT AND AGENCY CO.,
LIMITED.

On the 26th January the eleventh ordinary meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited, was held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors with statement of accounts for the year ended December 31st last. The chair was occupied by the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, who was supported by the Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. A. J. Raymond, D. Gubbay, N. A. Siebs, A. Haupt, Lee Sing (directors), and A. Shelton Hooper (secretary). There were also present Messrs. C. S. Sharp, J. Goosman, R. Shawan, J. H. Lewis, K. A. Chinoy, S. A. Seth, F. Jordan, C. T. Veitch, J. M. Michael, G. C. Anderson, W. H. Purcell, J. H. Cox, and A. Turner.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: I will with your permission, take the report and accounts as read. Your directors have pleasure in presenting a report which they hope will be deemed satisfactory to the shareholders. The gross profits for the past year amounted to \$318,366.00 as against \$252,702.24 for 1897. Directing your attention in the first instance to our revenue derived from interest account, you will observe a falling off to the extent of about 25 per cent compared with that of the previous year, brought about by the large decrease in the amount we have usually had employed in mortgage advances. Our rent account has increased from \$17,897.19 in 1897 to \$166,717.53 for the year under review. The result is accounted for by the fact that, in addition to the revenue we have collected from purchases during the year, several properties have been developed which previously had been unyielding, but it must not be overlooked that the revenue from rents has been necessarily somewhat diminished by our having sold some of our properties. The profit on these sales has, however, added materially to the improved results of the year's working. Such profit you will observe amounts to \$68,952.71, and it is principally on this account that your directors have been enabled to recommend the payment of a larger dividend than heretofore, a dividend they have every reason to hope may be main-

tained for the future. On reference to the balance sheet, you will no doubt have observed the large decrease in the amount of accounts payable, which is occasioned by our withdrawing a similarly large sum from the amount invested on mortgage. Out of the sum of \$2,989,400.78 invested in properties, more than two millions is entirely developed and revenue earning, and of the balance, about 4 lacs will be yielding rentals within the next few months. I may also mention that your directors, carrying out their intention as I stated to you at the last annual meeting, have not increased the company's interest in entirely undeveloped properties during the period under review. The whole of the company's properties have been kept in good and substantial condition, which accounts for the somewhat heavy amount expended in repairs. Before moving the adoption of the report, I shall be pleased to give any further information.

No questions being asked the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report.

Mr. SHEWAN, in seconding, said—With a report and accounts like the present, which show an improvement all round and an increased dividend, our feelings as shareholders are worked upon that there is nothing left for us to do but to offer our cordial congratulations to the management for such a pleasing result. (Hear, hear.) A bigger dividend, in the classical language of a well-known advertisement, “fences the spot” and leaves no room for criticism. It only proves to all of us that the company is one of the safest and most convenient forms of investment in the colony. The shares may not be liable to any sudden rise in value, but on the other hand they are proof against any sudden fall, and I know of no shares which so appeal to a nervous investor, who, if he wants a good return, wants still more security, and he can get both of these requirements in the shares of this Company. For the past few years progress has been slow but constant. The income from interest has fallen off, but that is not such a bad sign, for it shows that more capital has gone into the business of the company, but I notice that the total receipts for rents and interest amount to some \$13,000, or say about 6 per cent., more than in 1897, and surely that is a really substantial improvement. Profits on sales of property may seem to be a rather precarious source of income, but I believe there is still a good deal of property undeveloped and available for sale, which with the growth of the colony must greatly appreciate in value. Altogether it seems to me that the future of the company is still assured if it depends on the prosperity of this colony, and none of us have any fear about that. I heartily congratulate the directors—and more particularly the managing directors—and the secretary for the good position they have got the Company into. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. GOOSMAN, seconded by Mr. SHARP, Messrs. Raymond and Haupt were re-elected directors.

On the motion of Mr. VEITON, seconded by Mr. LEWIS, Messrs. Henderson and Peter were re-elected auditors.

This was all the business.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors:—

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1898.

The net profits for that period, including \$57,856.26 balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, amount to \$328,454.93. From this amount an interim dividend of \$2 per share has already been paid, and it is now proposed to pay a final dividend of \$3 per share, making a total dividend of ten per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital, and after writing off directors' and auditors' fees there remains a balance of \$67,854.63 to be carried forward to the credit of a new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS

Messrs. A. J. Raymond and A. Hunt no retire by rotation but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. J. C. Peter (in place of Mr. A. Coutts who resigned). Messrs. Henderson and Peter now retire but offer themselves for re-election.

J. J. BELL-IRVING,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1899.

BALANCE SHEET.	
31st Dec., 1898.	LIABILITIES.
Paid-up capital	2,500,000.00
Reserve fund	1,250,000.00
Accounts payable	262,362.53
Balance of profit and loss account	228,454.93

31st Dec., 1898.	ASSETS.
Cash	2,896.69
Amount advanced on mortgage	1,214,200.00
Amount invested in property	2,989,400.76
Furniture account	4,191.52
Accounts receivable	30,129.49

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
30th June, 1898.	Dr.
To interim dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year	100,000.00
31st December.	
To charges account, including legal expenses	23,934.99
To repairs to house property	16,827.80
To advertising account	431.35
To fire insurance account	6,573.19
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—	
Directors' fees	5,000.00
Managing directors' fees	5,000.00
Auditors' fees	600.00
Final dividend of 8 per cent. for the half-year	150,000.00
Balance to be carried to new account	67,854.93

1st Jan., 1899.	Cr.
By undivided profits, 1897	57,856.26
31st December.	
Interest on mortgages	127,773.76
Less—Interest on loans payable	53,726.75
	74,047.01
By rent account	166,717.52
By commission account	8,499.76
By scrip fees	149.00
By profit on sale of properties	68,952.71

RESERVE FUND.	
31st Dec., 1898.	Cr.
To balance	1,250,000.00
1st Jan., 1899.	
By balance	1,250,000.00

A. SHELTON HOOPER, Secretary.

WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

On the 26th January the 10th ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors together with statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1898. The Hon. C. P. Chater presided, and the other directors present were the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. C. S. Sharp, and Mr. A. J. Raymond. There were also present Messrs. J. Goosman, E. A. Haroon, W. S. Bailey, J. C. Dos Remedios, A. Haupt, R. Shewan, R. K. Leigh, J. Y. Vernon, A. Shelton Hooper (secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission the report and accounts which have been with you for some days I take as read. Our gross earnings for the past year have been \$32,423.53, as against \$30,752.72 for 1897, whilst our expenditure has been increased by the sum of \$968.89. Our net profits for the year's working amount to \$16,523.88, as against \$15,821.96 for that of the previous year, notwithstanding that there was an increase of over \$1,200 in the item of repairs, the other charges remaining practically the same. The amount of rents for the year shows an increase of \$1,732.81. There were 10 floors vacant at the date of closing our accounts, with an estimated rental of \$247 per month, as against 26 vacant floors last year, at a rental of \$398. I will now refer to the recent notice which you have all received, calling up the balance of the capital, namely \$10 per share. For some time past this company has mortgaged

its property to the China Fire Insurance Co., which was done when money was fairly plentiful and so we were enabled to obtain the loan at 5½ per cent. interest, and so long as we were able to obtain those favourable terms it was not to the advantage of the shareholders that the balance of the capital should be called up. This mortgage is about to expire and, as money has become scarcer, we have not been able to raise a new loan or renew the existing one except at a much higher rate of interest. Your directors, therefore, with not only the concurrence but at the express wish of some of the principal shareholders, have made the call, which is payable on or before 1st March next, feeling sure that such a course will commend itself to the entire body of shareholders. Before moving the adoption of the report I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions being asked the report was adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. GOOSMAN. The latter remarked that they had had a very interesting speech from the Chairman, and he was sure they all concurred with what he had said.

On the motion of Mr. BAILEY, seconded by Mr. VERNON, Messrs. Sharp and Raymond were re-elected directors.

On the motion of Mr. SHEWAN, seconded by Mr. LEIGH, Mr. Fullarton Henderson was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that this was all the business and that the dividend warrants would be ready on the 27th.

The following is the report of the General Agents:—

Gentlemen,—The General Agents now submit to you a statement of the affairs of the Company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1898.

The net profits for the year, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, amount to \$17,409.94, and after writing off directors' and auditor's fees, it is proposed to pay a dividend of \$1.25 per share, and to carry forward the balance of \$1,249.4 to credit of new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. C. S. Sharp and A. J. Raymond retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullarton Henderson who now retires but offers himself re-election.

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to the Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ltd., General Agents for the West Point Building Co., Limited.
Hongkong, 16th January, 1899.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1898.	
31st Dec., 1898.	LIABILITIES.
Paid-up capital	500,000.00
The China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, mortgage on the company's property	110,000.00
Accounts payable	873.82
Balance of profit and loss account	17,409.94

31st Dec., 1898.	ASSETS.
Cost of property	611,830.80
Cash	16,034.93
Accounts receivable	418.03

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT	
31st Dec., 1899.	Dr.
To fire insurance	2,002.75
To charges	403.73
To Crown rent and rates	4,467.74
To legal expenses	6.60
To repairs to buildings	1,924.27
To interest	5,913.64
To commission to agents	1,180.92
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—	
Directors' fees	500.00
Auditor's fee	50.00
Dividend of 1.25 per share	16,625.00
Balance to be carried to new account	1,234.94

1st Jan., 1899.	Cr.
By balance brought forward	886.06
31st Dec., 1898	
By rents	32,398.53
By scrip fees	25.00

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the tenth report of the board of directors to the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's Offices, Victoria Buildings, at noon on Wednesday, 1st February:—

Gentlemen,—The Directors now submit to you a statement of the affairs of the company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1898.

The balance of profit and loss account for the year, after writing off all charges and expenses, amounted to \$6,710.70. The Directors, therefore, recommend that a dividend of one dollar per share be paid, which, after writing off the Directors' and Auditors' Fees, will leave a balance of \$550.70 to be carried forward to credit of a new Profit and Loss Account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. F. Henderson and J. Goosmann retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Thos. Arnold and W. H. Gaskell, who retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

F. HENDERSON,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1899.

BALANCE SHEET TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1898.	
31st Dec., 1898.	LIABILITIES.
Authorised capital, 6,000 shares of \$50 each	
—\$300,000, of which 5,960 allotted \$30 each paid up	179,800.00
Accounts payable	194.77
Dividends outstanding	704.10
Balance of profit and loss account	6,710.70

31st Dec., 1898.	ASSETS.
Cash	3,409.24
Cost of property	152,032.17
Accounts receivable	968.16

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
31st Dec., 1898	Dr.
To charges	373.48
To Crown rent and rates	1,889.10
To fire insurance	263.31
To commission to agents	634.17
To repairs	920.67
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—	
Dividend of \$1 per share	\$5,960.00
Directors' fees	150.00
Auditors' fees	50.00
To be carried to new profit and loss account	550.70

1st Jan., 1899.	Cr.
By balance brought forward	164.40
31st Dec., 1898.	
By rents	10,592.66
By interest	10.32
By scrip fees	24.00

THE HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAM-BOAT CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders to be held at the office of the Company, on Monday, 30th January, at noon:—

The directors beg to submit to the shareholders the report and statement of accounts for the half-year ending 31st December last.

After paying running expenses, salaries, premia of insurance, repairs, and all other outgoings, there remains, including \$35,165.16 brought forward from last account, the sum of \$147,102.47 at credit of profit and loss account. From this amount the Directors recommended that a dividend for the half-year of 8 per cent on capital, or \$96,000, be paid to shareholders, and that 5 per cent or \$43,112.50 be written off the book value of steamers and launches, leaving a balance of \$7,989.97, to be carried forward to new account.

The steamers' earnings compare favourably with those of the corresponding six months of 1897, the net result showing an improvement of about \$31,000.

During the half-year under review the *Powan* and *Heungshan* have undergone the usual annual docking and Government survey. The machinery and boilers of the *Heungshan* have been thoroughly overhauled, and the steamers are now all in good running order.

On the 11th September, while coming to the wharf, the *Fatshan* collided with the *Praya* wall, breaking and twisting her stem. The Company's proportion of loss, consequent upon this accident, amounting to \$3,021.31, is provided for in the accounts now presented, as also is the loss sustained through the *Powan's* collision in January last, which amounts to \$11,904.87.

Arrangements for the construction of a new pier of iron and steel opposite the site of the Company's old wharf are now in progress.

The properties mortgaged to the Company have been re-valued by Messrs. Palmer & Turner, whose valuations show them to be ample security for the sums advanced.

The retiring auditors, Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and F. Henderson, offer themselves for re-election.

E. R. BELLIOS,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 21st January, 1899.

31st Dec., 1898.	ASSETS.	\$	c.
Value of 4 steamers and 3 tugs of <i>Fatshan</i>		812,250.00	
Value of 2 steam-launches		50,000.00	
Value of wharves, hulks, moorings, &c.		31,071.32	
Value of properties at Wuchow and Kongkun ..		8,315.27	
Value of lighters <i>Sun Lee</i> and <i>Wo Lee</i>		14,000.00	
Value of coal, stores and spare gear		16,187.61	
Value of furniture		750.00	
Value of shares in public companies		320,550.00	
Value of Chinese bonds		1,034.48	
Property foreclosed		4,000.00	
Loans on mortgage		641,700.00	
Fixed deposit with the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation		22,719.52	
Cash with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		66,564.32	
Interest accrued to date		1,121.05	
Installments paid account new tow boats and lighters for West River trade		22,033.33	
Recovered from underwriters		16,489.38	
Sundry debtors		8,136.59	
		\$2,036,972.87	

31st Dec., 1898.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Amount of capital, 80,000 shares of \$15 each, fully paid up		1,200,000.00	
Amount of refund of capital of \$5 per share on 10 shares unpaid		50.00	
Amount at credit of depreciation and insurance fund		600,000.00	
Amount at credit of equalization of dividend fund		9,000.00	
Amount at credit of investment fluctuation account		34,136.55	
Unclaimed dividends		11,897.00	
Hongkong wharf special account, amount received from Government, to be expended on new wharf		22,719.52	
Sundry creditors		12,067.33	
Amount at credit of profit and loss account		147,102.47	
		2,036,972.87	

31st Dec., 1898.	Dr.	\$	c.
To amount paid for repairs to steamers		21,669.28	
To Company's proportion of loss on:— <i>Powan</i> —Average		\$11,904.87	
<i>Fatshan</i> —Average		3,021.31	
		14,926.18	
To directors and auditors' fees		2,750.00	
To balance to be appropriated, viz.:— Dividend at 8 per cent. on \$1,200,000		\$96,000.00	
To be written off value of stores		43,112.50	
To be carried to new account		7,989.97	
		147,102.47	

30th June, 1898.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount brought forward from last account		35,165.16	
31st Dec.			
By net earnings of steamers		117,532.63	
By interest on investments		33,601.14	
By transfer fees		149.00	
		\$186,447.93	

31st Dec., 1898.	Dr.	\$	c.
To balance		600,000.00	
30th June, 1898.			
By amount at credit		600,000.00	
		600,000.00	
31st Dec., 1898.	Dr.	\$	c.
To balance		2,000.00	
30th June, 1898.			
By amount at credit		2,000.00	
		2,000.00	

R.AUB.

The Manager's Report for the month of December—four weeks—ending on 4th January, 1899, is:—

Raub Hole.—The only work being carried on here is stoping on the ore chute between 120 ft. and 220 ft. levels. There is no change to report from here. We have taken out, since starting to stop, 18 ft. in height by the full length of ore chute.

The Crosscut going East is now in over 100 ft. from the level in hard black slate almost dry.

Bukit Hitam.—This section is hardly looking so well as at date of my last report.

In the Drive going North the lode is still small about 6 in. wide and very little gold can be seen in the stone. I do not think we are on the true lode in this end, but I think it has been thrown over East by the crosscourse met with near the shaft. It is my intention to put in a cross-cut to see if the lode is out in that direction as there are large bodies of quartz and old workings on the surface.

In the Drive going South the lode is about 20 in. wide and carries very good gold all the way in from the shaft about 60 ft. I estimate that this stone will yield from 2 to 3 ounces per ton. There is now about 20 tons on the surface. This is being put into the hopper for transport to the mill. The hopper and tramway from shaft to hopper are finished and trucking quartz to the mill will begin at once.

I have reason to believe this will develop into one of our best mines.

Bukit Koman.—This section still continues to develop well.

In No. 1 Level North we have not yet done anything to clear up the debris from the burst of water and stuff which took place some time ago. I do not think it advisable to do anything here till the present monsoon is over and the ground is drained more. All the stuff from the break will be crushed when we start to clean up as it is full of small quartz carrying good gold.

In No. 1 Level South we are now in over 1,000 ft. from the main crosscut. The lode at present in face of the level is about 2 ft. wide and carries a little gold.

This Level is now in nearly 1,900 ft. from face to face and carries payable gold for the whole distance. It will average over 12 ft. wide by an average height of 120 ft. About one fifth of it has been taken out and crushed leaving four fifths still to take out. The lode where last driven through in the north end is 48 ft. wide the whole of which carries fair gold and is good payable crushing stuff.

The Stopes over the back of the south level are all looking well. No stoping is being done in the north end as this is under the swamp and I do not think it advisable to work them during the present wet weather as we have plenty of ore available without them.

In the south end I am now sinking No. 5 Air Shaft to ventilate No. 1 level south. This air shaft is within 150 ft. of the No. 1 south engine shaft which 1,150 ft. south of Bukit Koman engine shaft.

No. 1 South Engine Shaft is 14 ft. by 5 ft. clear of timber and is divided into three compartments, two for winding and one for pumps and ladderway. This shaft is 70 ft. deep and is timbered throughout with 8 in. by 4 in. sawn Merbau timber. Poppet Heads are erected over the shaft and we are now putting in foundations for pumping and winding machinery. As soon as this arrives it will be at once placed in position and the sinking of shaft resumed. By the time this shaft is down the required depth I expect the No. 1 South Level coming in from Bukit Koman Engine Shaft to be up to this shaft, which will then be connected with the level, after which sinking will be resumed for No. 2 Level. A similar shaft will be sunk north, midway between Bukit Koman and Bukit Jellis engine shafts, and eventually all of these shafts will be connected by levels which will enable us to work about 6,000 ft. on the line of Bukit Koman lode. From the present appearance of the lode these shafts will give us command of several million tons of ore for crushing.

No. 2 Level. In the Drive going North the lode in the face is 10 ft. wide and carries good gold the whole width. I do not think this is the full width of crushing stuff as there is still quartz on the west side of the level. The lode is

rather irregular at present but when we stop it out we will take it the full width of ore body which I think will prove to be considerable. All of the stuff from this drive has been sent to the mill for crushing. This drive is now in 380 ft. from the crosscut.

No. 2 Level South.—This drive is now in 505 feet from the crosscut, for about 400 feet on the footwall side of the lode there has been a horse of mullock dividing the lode from the footwall. This horse gradually widens till at 300 feet in the ore body got too far from the hanging wall, I decided to leave the ore body standing and push on the drive on the footwall side. Where we left the ore body there is 12 feet of crushing stuff carrying good gold. I intend putting in a crosscut to see what width it is near the face.

There are two winzes sunk from the No. 1 to No. 2 levels, both sunk all the way in; we do not know what width the lode is in the winzes as they are all in quartz and carry good gold all the way. There is 94 feet of backs all ready for stoping between the two levels from which not a ton of ore has been stoped. These alone form a huge payable ore reserve which can be extended indefinitely.

The New Adit 188 ft. long for carrying off the water from the pumps in Bukit Koman shaft is now finished, and will save carrying the water from the mine over the mine workings, which are very much broken and crushed from settling of the ground, causing a good deal of the water to find its way back again into the workings.

Bukit Jellis.—The cross-cut going in East at 350 ft. level has not yet cut the lode although I expected to do so long before this. The crosscut is now in over 300 ft. from the shaft. I think the body of leaders out at the shaft must be the lode formation, if so the lode has been thrown back West for a long distance. This leader formation is about 40 ft. wide 20 ft. of which on the East side carries payable gold. I intend to open out and drive North and South on this formation.

The Crosscut going in West at the level is now in 80 ft. in clean black slate.

Battery.—The general clean up for November and December took place on Monday last and resulted in a yield of 2,182 ozs. 7 dwts. 0 grs. of smelted gold from 3,465 tons. The crushing during December was poorer than usual owing to there being a large quantity of mullock-slate which had to be taken as it contained small leaders carrying good gold. It could not be separated and was too good to be left in the ground. The stopes are now becoming better defined and the ore is of better grade as we can take it cleaner.

The following is the quantity of ore crushed from the different mines:—

Bukit Koman	2,357 tons.
Raub Hole	109 "

Total

2,465 tons.
Electric Installation, Sempam Section.—Good progress has been made with the various works on this section.

The concrete dam across Sempam River is almost completed and first length of flume forming outlet from dam to flume line is built in and inlet to pipe head reservoir from flume is finished. The pipe head reservoir is finished with the exception of fixing the pipe head which has not yet arrived or it would have been placed in position. All of the timber for the flume is dressed ready to put together; this will be proceeded with at once.

A week will finish the pipe track to the power station.

At the power station the retaining walls are all finished and all work in connection with drains and culverts to carry the water from the Pelton wheels and foundations of generators will be finished in a week.

On the cable track all work connected with clearing and making bridle path is about finished and a start made to put up posts.

Raub Section.—At New Battery site the rails are being laid on railway deviation to the battery. The excavations at new battery site are finished, and the work of putting up the buildings will be started at once.

All heavy timbers for foundations of new battery are on the ground and contractors for new dam are making good progress.

As this is my last report for the year 1898, I take the opportunity to congratulate the shareholders on the continued prosperity of the Company and the brilliant prospects for the year now entered upon.

Wm. BIBBY, Mining Manager.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

SIXTH CLUB RACE, 22ND JANUARY.

The wind was again light and variable when the boats started at 1.15 and 1.30, there being a dead calm on the line, with a strong flood tide, so strong that one or two boats dragged their anchors. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Stonecutters (port), mark boat off Chung Hae (port), North Fairway Buoy (port), Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy (starboard); 14 miles. The following boats started:—

"A" Class.—Active, Maid Marian, Phoebe, Erica, Sybil, Chanticleer, Bonito.

"B" Class.—Princess, Dart, Payne, Ladybird.

Shortly before the 5 minutes gun the Phoebe drifted over to the wrong side of the line and in the almost entire absence of wind she did not recross for 19 minutes after the others. An east wind came down to the line just after the "A" Class started and continued all along the Kowloon shore, but outside the gunboats the wind was south, very light. The Erica kept close in to the shore and at the Oil Works had established a substantial lead. The Chanticleer, Sybil, Maid Marian, and Active were fairly close together; the Bonito having struck a calm, was left behind at first, but got into the east wind and reached past the four until she struck another oily patch near the kerosine stores.

The south wind continued to be felt along the back of Stonecutters Island, and the Chanticleer, Sybil, and Maid all closed up on Erica, the first of the three being within half-a-dozen lengths on clearing the Island, this distance being maintained right up to the mark boat off Chung Hae. Here the leading boats were about four minutes ahead of the Maid Marian, Active, and Sybil, which rounded close together. Bonito had made a long tack near to Chung Hae shore, and was next boat round, then Phoebe and Princess, which had a long lead from the rest of her class, being favoured by a southerly breeze when passing Stonecutters. Dart was about a quarter-of-an-hour behind Princess at this point with Ladybird and Payne following at five minute intervals. In the run down to the Fairway Buoy the Maid Marian, Sybil, and Active gained several minutes on Erica and Chanticleer, the wind getting much stronger from the west, and there was only about two minutes between the four leading boats, Erica, Chanticleer, Maid Marian, and Sybil at the Buoy. The wind was free on the port beam in the reach to the Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy and no changes took place, but in the last reach along the Kowloon shore Maid Marian went past Chanticleer into second place, and the line was crossed as follows at the finish:—

	A CLASS.	Total marks.
Erica	4 2 54 1st 10 marks	39
Maid Marian	4 4 20 2nd 4	5
Chanticleer	4 4 53 3rd 1	25
Sybil	4 6 27	14
Active	4 9 29	1
Phoebe	4 22 37	
Bonito	gave up	5
Meteor		1

	B CLASS.	Total marks.
Princess	4 21 19 1st 10 marks	23
Dart	4 36 59 2nd 4	25
Ladybird	4 39 52 3rd 1	16
Payne	4 45 45	10
Ste		1

The race for the R.E. Cup, sailed on Saturday, the 21st January, did not count, none of the boats crossing the line before the time limit at 5.30 p.m.

The following Peking telegram was received at Shanghai on the 22nd January:—Next year being the 30th anniversary of H. M. Emperor Kuang Hsu's birthday, an auspicious period of a man's life in China, it is reported that a special edict will be issued soon commanding the inauguration next year of extra or "Grace Examinations" for the licentiate and M.A. degrees, in celebration of the event.—N. C. Daily News.

CRICKET.

On the Happy Valley ground on Saturday the men and officers from H.M.S. *Victorious* played against one another. The men went to the wickets first, but made an indifferent score. Lieut. Stahlnecht was responsible for the smallness of the score, taking six wickets for 17 runs. Johnson and Hall opened the batting for the officers, and before they were disposed of they passed the men's total, retiring for 28 and 38 respectively. The only other to make a stand was Hurt, who knocked up 17. None of the others reached double figures, and Lewis went out with a "duck." Smith was the most successful bowler, but his five wickets cost him 42 runs. The men went in a second time, and lost four wickets in making enough to add to the first innings score to total the first attempt by the officers, so the latter won handsomely by one innings and seven wickets. Following are the scores:

OFFICERS.	
Johnson, c White, b Smith	28
Hall, b Dadd	38
Moreton, b Dadd	7
Stahlnecht, run out	1
Dyer, c Crosskey, b Smith	3
Stopford, c Phillips, b Smith	7
Hurt, b Dadd	17
Gifford, st Crosskey, b Smith	1
Lewis, st Crosskey, b Smith	0
Goddard, b Dadd	1
Dodd, not out	2
Extras	6
Total	111

MEN.	
White, b Hall	10
May, b Stahlnecht	2
Ferguson, b Stahlnecht	8
Smith, b Stahlnecht	1
Starkey, c Lewis, b Stahlnecht	11
Dadd, b Stahlnecht	0
Roxburgh, b Stahlnecht	3
Palmer, b Moreton	1
Phillips, b Moreton	0
Crosskey, not out	2
Gower, run out	0
Extras	5
Total	43

SECOND INNINGS.—Ferguson, 14; Starkey, 2; May, 0; Smith, 2; White, 30, not out; Dodd, 5, not out. Total, with 5 extras, 58.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

SHORT RANGE CUP AND SPOONS.

There was a very good attendance at the ranges on Saturday last. The Cup was won by Mr. W. Diggins with a total score of 93, including 14 points handicap. Capt. Carlyle, an old Hongkong shot, just missed the possible at the 200 yards range, putting on an excellent 49. Below are a few of the scores:—

	200	300	H'cap.	Total.
Mr. W. Diggins*	39	40	14	93
Mr. W. Stackwood*	40	42	8	90
Capt. Carlyle*	49	40	—	89
Mr. A. Watson*	44	43	—	87
C.S.M. Wallace, R.E.	43	43	—	86
P. O. Harborne	44	42	—	86
Capt. Hills, R.E.	41	42	3	86
Mr. A. Read	37	43	6	86
Capt. Swan	39	33	12	84
P. O. Walton	43	40	—	83
P. O. Andrews	43	40	—	83
P. O. Manning	43	37	—	80

* Winners of spoons.

FOOTBALL.

KOWLOON VERSUS H.M.S. "VICTORIOUS."

Representatives from the above were to meet on Saturday on the Happy Valley ground to engage in a game of football under Association rules. Verbal permission had been obtained by one of the teams that the game could be played upon the portion of ground known as that claimed by the Police Football Club, and both teams naturally put in an appearance there; but Lapsley, the first to arrive, was shown a written document, giving permission to the Royal Engineers and Victoria Club to play thereon. After nearly half-an-hour's delay, the Kowloon and *Victorious* teams moved to the Hongkong Football Club's Ground, many hundred followers accompanying them. Owing to this delay, the game did not start until nearly five o'clock, the teams lining up as follow:—

KOWLOON.

Burrall
Lapsley
Dyer
Smillie
Wilson
Rushbrook
Winch
Broad
Wright
Duncan
Barlow

GOALKEEPERS.

BACKS.

HALF-BACKS.

FORWARDS.

"VICTORIOUS."

BOWLES.

BACKS.

HALF-BACKS.

FORWARDS.

The Navy kicked off, and Lapsley failed to return, letting in Millar, but the ball was taken from him and sent on to Barlow, who ran along touch and then sent across to Broad, who made a poor attempt to score. Kowloon continued to press, and Broad tried another shot, the ball just grazing the top of the bar. From the kick out Butland secured and sent out to Millar, who counter-passed to Butland, but Dyer stepped in and sent the ball to Barlow on the right wing. His centre was snapped by Kane, who put in a huge kick and sent the leather into touch far out of danger. Kowloon, however, would not be denied, and the forwards made a decided attack, which Smillie made the best of and scored, absolutely giving Bowles no chance to save. Butland secured after the ball was restarted, and he put in some good play, working the ball individually close to Kowloon's sticks, but his shot at goal went wide. Kowloon then bombarded, and a short by Duncan went over the cross-bar. Millar and Francis were then conspicuous in some good play, but were deprived of the ball by Lapsley. Kane, however, secured, and gave to Butland. Butland passed out to McNee, but that player kicked over the line in a feeble attempt to score. The Navy men at this time had settled down to the game and played better in combination; they repeatedly attacked, but found the defence of Kowloon too strong to get through. They might have succeeded had Kane been in the front rank. Owing to the absence of Lismore, Kane was put back with Brough. Here, we think, the *Victorious* captain made a mistake, for Millar missed his usual partner on the wing, and appeared somewhat at sea with Francis. An attack by the seamen put Kowloon's goal in jeopardy, and Butland almost scored. Barlow received a pass from Lapsley and rushed along the touch line, but just as he was about to score, Kane galloped in and bowled him over. The seamen once more got the ball to Kowloon's end, and Butland tried another shot, but the attempt was futile. The ball from the briney got another chance to score from a corner kick, the ball being well centred, but it was badly headed, obviously outside the uprights. Give and take play and long shots were the order of the game, and then Broad essayed at goal, which failed. Kowloon pressed and compelled Bowles to kick away, but the ball rebounded over the line off Kane, giving a corner to Kowloon, but the attempt to centre was a poor exhibition. Millar and Butland got possession and tried hard to score, and but for Rushbrook, most likely would have succeeded. Shortly afterwards Mr. Mayson sounded half time, Kowloon having obtained the only goal scored.

When the game was resumed Kane came forward and played on the left wing, Francis filling his place as back. Kane was soon conspicuous in a sharp sprint and a shot at goal, but the ball was kept out, and play taken to the seamen's end, Burrall well saving a shot by Butland. The game was delayed for a short time to allow Millar to recover from a kick on the head. A handkerchief was twisted round his forehead, and he resumed. Pinear and McNee combined well and took the ball close to Kowloon's uprights; Wilson, however, smartly secured and put his goal out of danger. The *Victorious* were having much the best of the game, but they could not possibly break through. Wilson secured and sent on to his forwards, and then rushed up and sent in a shot which compelled Bowles of handle. Butland and Kane in turn tried to score, but Kowloon got away, compelling Allan to run back and make a back overhead kick. In

turn both goals were assailed, and play waged up and down the field at a great pace, Kowloon eventually getting the best of it. Rushbrook centred the ball, and Wilson passed to Smillie, who sidelegged to Barlow, and the latter sent in a fast low shot, which entirely beat the goalkeeper. Kowloon now led by 2 goals to nil. The seamen undoubtedly considered this kind of play not at all to their fancy, and combined in a determined attack. It proved successful, too, for Kane secured off Butland and made no mistake about putting the ball through. Soon afterwards time was called and Kowloon left the field victorious by two goals to one. The *Victorious* was unable to put her full strength on the field, and in consequence lost. On the day's play the best team won and thoroughly deserved the victory.

V.R.C. VERSUS ROYAL ENGINEERS.

The following teams represented the above named on Saturday at Happy Valley:—

V.R.C.—Mills, goalkeeper; Tuohy and Cameron, backs; Corbit, Craig, Gonsalves, halves; Brett, Byrne, Henderson, Yule, and Rosa, forwards.

R.E.—Ravener, goalkeeper; Thornhill, Redpath, backs; Calderwood, Nolan, Joslin, halves; Kerrigan, Wilkins, King, McConnell, Mather, forwards.

The contest resulted in a draw of no goals. The Engineers had a little the best of the game, however, and were unlucky in not scoring on two occasions. The back play and goalkeeping on either side was very stubborn.

A GAME BETWEEN ARTILLERY COMPANIES.

The 25th Southern Artillery met a combination of the other two Artillery companies on Saturday, for the purpose of putting in some practice in view of the forthcoming Shield contests. The 25th Southern played a good game, and won by two goals to nil.

H.M.S. "POWERFUL" VERSUS FLEET.

On the Hongkong Football ground on 20th Jan. a team from the *Powerful* engaged against a team representing the remainder of the fleet in harbour. The game was under Rugby rules, or, as footballers term it, "rugger," and the *Powerful* side won. It was not so interesting a game as the last Rugby match, for it was kept very close. There was a lot of scrummaging, and numerous "line-ups." When the backs did get the ball, they did not make the best of the chances, and several players were conspicuous by continual "fumbings." But for this the *Powerful* team should have scored more than a single try. The smart tackling of Neville and Strong was responsible for many of the scrums. Although the *Powerful* men were not so heavy as the Fleet forwards, they usually got the best of the pushing, and did most healing; but when Neville and Strong were so smart in tackling it was of little avail. On occasions the *Powerful* quarters exhibited good bits of passing, which might have been effective had Armstrong not repeatedly knocked the ball forward. Although Commander Ethelston was a little slow at times, he got in more work than his colleague and on the whole played a capital game; but of the halves on either side Neville was the smartest. Of the *Powerful* forwards, Wilson was prominent in scoring the only try; and Piele, Oliphant, and Compton were often conspicuous. Hayes was fairly safe at back, and he was often called upon. Tomkinson, really a good three-quarter, played back in the first half for the Fleet, but went into his proper place during the second part, and he did some smart things. There was not much to choose between the three-quarters, Lewis, perhaps, being the most prominent in tackling. Shipway, Jones, and Sempill played about the best game forward.

The teams lined up as follow:

FLEET.

Hayes

White, Sheen, Wall, Armstrong
Ethelston, Dowling
Piele, Pike, Egerton, Hodges
Ingles, Compton, Oliphant, Wilson.

O

Warren, Beytes, Shipway, Crook,
Somerall, Jones, Statchnecht, Sempill
Strong, Neville
Lewis, Grieve, Johnson, Sheward
Tomkinson

"POWERFUL."

The Fleet kicked off, but when Compton secured the ball, he stuck to it too long, and the *Powerful's* forwards rushed him, a scrum being then formed. Wall passed wildly after receiving the ball, and let in the Fleet, but Hayes returned well into touch in the Fleet's preserves. Out of a tight scrum, lasting several seconds, the *Powerful's* halves secured. White ran across the ground, and looked like eluding all opposition, when Tomkinson grandly tackled and "grassed" him. Hayes muffed the ball and let in Lewis, but Sheen was at hand and brought him up. After a bout of wild passing, Ethelston picked up and passed to Grieve. Grieve sent on to Wall, who threw to White. The latter failed to take the pass and knocked forward. The Fleet got the best of the scrum, and worked well into the other side's half, Neville being mainly responsible in preventing the opposing halves getting possession. The *Powerfuls* managed to press again, when Wilson shone in a long dribble. Scrum after scrum followed, and a free kick was awarded the Fleet, but the ball was well returned, and the *Powerfuls* made a rush over the line, to all appearances scoring. The referee ruled otherwise, and the ball was kicked from 25. The oval was sent out from a scrum close to the Fleet's line, and Piele galloped after it; but Tomkinson reached the ball first. The *Powerful* players were having much the best of the game at this period, and exhibited very good combination, but spoilt a certain try by fumbling. The game was stopped on account of Sheen being attacked with cramp. On resuming, Johnson was conspicuous with a sprint. Just afterwards half time was called. Oliphant at the moment being down with cramp also. Although both sides worked hard to score during this half, they failed to do so.

On lining up again for the fray, Tomkinson took his rightful place amongst the three-quarters. The Fleet returned the kick off, and Armstrong tried to clear along the touch, but Sheward pushed him over. Each side pressed in turn, and on two occasions the Fleet became dangerous, Armstrong and Piele coming to the rescue. For many minutes scrums and touch-line play were the order of the game; then the *Powerfuls* rallied, calling into operation all the defensive powers of the Fleet, and Lewis, Gieves, and Johnson were kept busy. More scrums, and some of them very tight, ensued, and then the *Powerful* team treated the spectators to a good bit of passing, which enabled the whole of the players to get right on to the goal line. Scrums in close proximity broke out into loose play, and Wilson scored. Wall took the place kick and made a good attempt to place the ball between the uprights, only failing by a few feet from a difficult position. The ball had no sooner dropped than the referee whistled "side," the *Powerful* team winning the game, as stated, by 3 points (1 try) to nil.

HONGKONG F.C. VERSUS FLEET.

Several hundred spectators turned out on the 24th January to witness the rubber game between the above teams. The first of the three matches was won handsomely by the Fleet; the second was won by the home team with a narrow margin; and yesterday's match, the third, fell to the Fleet, the "sons of the sea" winning by 2 goals and 1 try (13 points) to nil.

The game yesterday was started at 4.45, half an hour after the advertised time, by the Fleet, and the ball bounding a good deal Izat found it difficult to secure it, and was rushed before he could get in a full kick, so play settled down in the Club's quarters. From a scrum close to the home team's line, Neville picked up, but was pushed into touch. Out of a scrum formed after the line up, the same player secured the leather again and passed to Tomkinson, but the pass from the latter to Wall was poorly taken, and another scrum ensued. From this scrum Ethelston secured and sent to Tomkinson. Putting on a spurt, the latter rounded all opposition and touched down close to the corner flag. Difficult as was the position, Wall made a good attempt to negotiate three points into five, but the ball dropped a few feet outside the upright. From the 25 kick-off Wall caught the ball and sent it into touch close on the line. An aggression by a Fleet player in the line-up gave a free kick to the Club, and through it the

homesters gained several yards. Another "free" was given against the Fleet, Ethelston being the aggressor, but the seamen got the best of two or three exchanges, and scrums ensued about midfield. Davis had an opportunity to pass out into the field, but kicked into touch. On the ball being again put into play Lewis smartly got possession and was conspicuous with a wriggle through nearly all opposition. By hard scrums and good half-back play the Fleet got over the Club's 25, where Neville picked up and kicked the ball into touch within a few yards of the home team's goal-line. Matters looked dangerous for the Club, and the forwards made a big effort to relieve, which they did through the assistance of Davies. It was short-lived, however, for Tomkinson secured, made several feints to pass, and got back again. Neville was then pushed into touch when he had almost cleared. Cox, for the Club, got away, but was pursued by Neville, and the former was bowled over. The Club was again pressed and kept hard at scrummaging in its territory for several minutes. Then Tomkinson picked up and tried to get off. He was hotly tackled and for a time had to stop playing, being "winded" by an opponent during the attack. He soon resumed, however, and play was carried by the Fleet to the other side of the field. Anton was smart on the ball, and he put in a huge punt. Stevens pursued the ball but evidently forgot to allow Hayes the usual 5-yards' run before tackling and consequently gave a free kick. As in the last match, some of the Fleet players failed to take passes, and on more than one occasion badly fumbled the ball, and but for this fault at one time should have increased their score. James, who was playing a capital forward game for the Club, got away with a dribble along the touchline, and then screwed the ball into the centre, but the oval went over the line and Wall was compelled to run back to save. Out of the scrum that followed Neville picked up and sped off. At what followed spectators were much amused. Neville ran a dozen yards, perhaps, and tried to jump over the arms of two opponents who rushed to stop him, but he tumbled into their embrace, and was held in mid air. A scrum ensued, and the forwards heeled. Neville pounced upon the ball and threw it to Ethelston; the Commander made a short run and transferred the ball to Wall, who eluded all opposition and planted the oval right under the bar. Tomkinson experienced no difficulty in landing a goal. The Club got the best of the exchanges from the 25 kick-out, and gained ground by a judicious kick into touch. Out of some loose play, after a 5-yards' scrum, Grieve picked up and put in a high punt, but before he could reach the ball from a cross run, a forward parallel to it got possession, and the referee awarded the Club a free kick. When Grieve saw he could not reach the ball, he continued to run, and really ran past it, a few yards off, to put the other players on-side. This, however, was a mistake, for unless the player who kicks the ball touches it first after it has passed more than two remaining opponents, any other player of his (the kicker's) side who handles the ball, is distinctly off-side. The free kick enabled the Club to rush the ball, and it went over the line, compelling the Fleet to save. Shortly after this lemon-time was called, the Fleet leading by 1 goal 1 try (8 points) to the Club's nothing.

On resuming, play settled down in the Fleet's territory, and the Club strenuously tried to score, but the Navy men were up on their mettle, and prevented any one from getting over the line, although Anton and Stevens were in turn on the point of doing so. Several hard scrums were fought, and the Club played so determinedly that they got the best of them. Neville, however, was responsible in taking play back to the 50, and from there he got away with a dribble, but when he picked up and passed Hancock intercepted and caused a scrum to be formed. Cox secured out of it, and made a plucky bid to get away, but was smartly grassed by the inevitable Neville. Play inclined to the centre, and Wilkinson took a flying kick, which was followed up by Anton, and he caused Hayes to run hard to secure. He did so, and then sent the leather well down the field into touch in the Club's 25. From a scrum which followed the line-up Ethelston secured, and the ball passed

from his hands, through Wall's, Sheward's, and Lewis's, enabling the Fleet to engage in another scrum close to the Club's uprights. From this scrum Stevens snapped the ball and sent it to Wilkinson; he put in a huge kick, but Hayes returned equally as well, and the leather went over touch, which eventually led to a try. On the ball being thrown into play, a scrum was formed; the forwards heeled, Neville secured and passed to Wall, and Wall gave to Lewis; the latter spurted, wriggled and twisted here and there, and cleverly eluded all who tried to stop, eventually planting the ball under the bar. Tomkinson easily converted it into the major point. The Club then had a look in and but for Tomkinson would have scored. The last named picked up the ball, sprinted along the touch-line, but when about to be tackled he passed inside to Wall, who repassed again to Tomkinson, but the quarters bowled him over. A good bit of passing by the Navy backs was intercepted by Anton, and Wilkinson did likewise. A free kick was given against the Fleet because the scrimmagers lifted their feet to secure the ball before it was put into the scrum. The Club had the ball placed to essay at goal, but the kick was charged down, and the Fleet got up close to the goal-line near touch, from which place Tomkinson secured and tried to "drop" a goal. The effort was a good one, for the ball went only about a foot the wrong side of the upright. Soon afterwards Mr. Sanders blew "time," and the game ended as stated.

All the Fleet's backs played a capital game, Tomkinson and Neville being the most prominent, and Commander Ethelston played a sterling game. Of the forwards Warren, Grieve and Sempill were ever in the thick of the fray. The Club's backs most of the time were acting on the defensive; when they did get the ball from the halves, which was rarely, they were immediately collared. Wilkinson and Anton were the pick. The halves were too well watched by the Fleet's pair to do much; in fact, they could not, because the Navy forwards heeled from nearly every scrum. James played a good hard game forward.

The teams did not turn out as advertised and lined up as follows, after having their photographs taken:

(FLEET.)			
Hayes			
(Powerful)			
Lewis	Wall	Sheward	Tomkinson
(Victorious)	(Powerful)	(Redpole)	(Fame)
Com. Ethelston		Neville	
(Powerful)		(Centurion)	
Wilson	Grieve	Pike	Hodges
(Powerful)	(Grafton)	(Powerful)	(Powerful)
Jones	Warren	Egerton	Sempill
(Grafton)	(Victorious)	(Powerful)	(Centurion)
O			
Morrell	James	Deacon	Barlow
Thomson	Castle	Loring	Colville
Cox - Stevens			
Hancock	Davies	Anton	Wilkinson
Izat			

(HONGKONG F. C.)

HONGKONG F.C. v. R.W. FUSILIERS.

The Hongkong Football Club Association team met on its ground at Happy Valley on the 25th Jan. a team of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The Fusiliers only arrived a few weeks ago, and yesterday's match was the first played by them. The regimental team has only been beaten once during three years. Unless they played all the other teams better than they did the one yesterday, the vanquished teams were not brilliant for the Club had upon the field an indifferent side indeed. At the last moment three substitutes were called upon to make up a full eleven. One of them (Stockwell) would have been better out of it, for at times he was more useless than useful. Duncan, a "sub." under the bar, played a capital game, and some of his saves were marvellous. The balls that did pass him were almost impossible to save; he is certainly as useful in an Association game as he is in Rugby. The game was fast from beginning to end, and the Club had as much of the play as the Fusiliers. The latter were smarter round goal, and made the best use of their ability. The eleven were much heavier men than the home-ers, and the wing men were a little too good for the Club's. Kew, for the home team, put in a lot of work, and got the Club

out of danger very cleverly on several occasions. Pinckney, an old Yokohama player, was a cool assever, and used his length to the best advantage. Kew, a brother to the back already mentioned, was in good form and deprived the opposing forwards of the ball in good style. Griffiths, a Military man, filled Dauby's place at centre half and played a hard game throughout; and he was often prominent in dribbling and judicious passing. Noble was conspicuous with several sprints and exceedingly well-placed centres, but his colleagues could not get the ball through because the defence of the Fusiliers was equal to the occasion. On the other wing Lowe was noticeable with speedy runs and good bits of play, and he and Looker, who played inside right, often got dangerous, and both, on more occasions than one, were unfortunate in not scoring. Rhodes, the Fusilier's goalkeeper, is the right man in the right place, and takes a lot of beating. The backs, Bellis and Stone, were beaten occasionally, but were usually in the right place when called upon. Harris, Humphries, and Jones, are a good half-back trio, and feed the forwards with capital judgment. The forwards, when in form, make a strong line. Phillips played a sterling game, and was responsible for two of the goals scored. Diggin was successful in scoring the last goal, which he did by kicking the ball low and fast. Duncan attempted to stop it, but the ball whizzed past him somewhat to his surprise. Although the new-comers won by 3 goals to nil, they will have to play much better to beat some of the other Military teams, and even the Club, when the full and best sides can be lined up.

The Committee of the Hongkong Football Competition met on Monday and drew the first two rounds with the following results:—

FIRST ROUND.

25th Company, Southern Division, R.A. v. C. Company, R.W.F.

11. Company, R.W.F. v. Hongkong Football Club.

The remaining teams drew byes.

SECOND ROUND.

33 Company, Southern Division, R.A. v. H.M.S. Chetivion.

D Company, R.W.F. v. Royal Engineers.

Winner of (25th Company, S.D., R.A. v. C. Company, R.W.F.) v. B. Company, R.W.F.

H.M.S. Victorious v. F. Company, R.W.F.

H.M.S. Powerful v. Kowloon F.C.

G. Company, R.W.F. v. H.M.S. Immortalité.

A. Company, R.W.F. v. Winner of (H. Company, R.W.F. v. Hongkong Football Club).

V.R.C. v. 25th Company, Eastern Division, R.A.

The first mentioned team in each match has choice of ground and must supply ball.

Matches must not commence later than a quarter past four.

The first round must be completed on or before Feb. 6, and the second round must be completed on or before Feb. 28.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE OPEN DOOR AND SPHERES OF INFLUENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Like "Wideawake" (whose letters to your esteemed publication I have frequently taken pleasure in reading) I have a desire to be quit of a subject which, as he says, might easily become interminable. At the same time, although he repeats the statement, I see nothing adduced in support of his contention to the effect that "Irish control" is responsible for anything we have to deplore with regard to British policy in the Far East. As an Irishman I resent this random statement, which is made without an atom of proof. In this I am afraid we must agree to differ. In reply to "B" I may say that I am very far indeed from believing that the system at present in vogue of encouraging British Consuls to become sinogues is a wise one; past a certain stage with certain exceptions, it should be discontinued. I am endeavouring to kill two birds with one stone and reply to "Wideawake" and "B,"

in the one letter. To my mind a sphere of influence seems an abandonment of our present advantage, for not only do we, by its adoption ourselves and its acceptance in others, tacitly surrender equality of rights to trade in any and every part of China, but we also saddle ourselves with the enormous responsibility of "protecting" thousands of miles of territory and a hundred millions of people. Add to this the fact that our claim to certain territories would be sure to be disputed, and a pretty kettle of fish is the result. On the other hand, by preserving the open door, we not only maintain our present preponderance of trade but have hope for expansion in the future.

I am under no delusion whatever with regard to the capabilities of the Chinese soldier. Not only did he fight well under Gordon, but he also fought well at Taku, Chinkiang, and other places when facing European troops and modern (at that time) weapons. Recently, although outclassed and outmanoeuvred, they fought a good fight at Yalu. I never extolled the Chinese brave as a "warrior," what I said was that when efficiently led he would fight as well as any other, which is different from saying he is a warrior.

Russia's objective is an ice-free port in the Pacific, China being only a means to an end. The closing of the Gulf against her effectually blocks this policy. We will have time yet to come to an understanding before Russia is able to move armies across China. As to my being absurd in referring to "Wideawake's" apparent desire to "take" the "Yangtze Valley," his letter of the 17th is my answer to "B." "Wideawake" there gives us explicit instructions how to garrison the Yangtze Valley. Here we have the China Association who say that Great Britain has "reasonable claim" to Kwangsi, Kwangtung, and Yunnan; "Wideawake" says the "Yangtze Valley" and "Thibet," that is to say, Szechuen, Hupeh, Hunan, Kiangsi, Nganhwei, and Kiangsu, as well as Thibet. Truly, sir, as our American cousins would say, "this is a pretty tall order."

With many apologies for this second transgression.—I beg to remain, Your obedient Servant,

OPEN DOOR.

Hongkong, 20th January, 1899.

CHANGE AT THE POST OFFICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—Referring to my letter of yesterday's date I beg to state that the 5-cent piece I tendered at the Post Office was a Hongkong coin and a brand new one, too. I understand that the shroffs there are withholding the coppers for obvious reasons. A couple of months ago, when the exchange was 103 cents to the dollar, they would not accept ten copper cents in payment for a 10-cent stamp, although copper cents are said to be legal tender up to \$1. Now, there being a premium on the copper coins, they declined to take a silver one and I was obliged to run home to.

BRING TWO CENTS.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1899.

P. S.—I wonder if they would have any objection if I offered them 100 cents now for a dollar stamp.

SERIOUS DEFALATION CASE AT SHANGHAI.

On Thursday afternoon, 19th January, in the British Police Court, Shanghai, before Mr. Burrows, sitting for the first time as Police Magistrate, Mr. J. W. H. Burgoyne, formerly of Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., was brought up on a charge of obtaining from the Russo-Chinese Bank the sum of Tls. 85,000 on false pretences. Mr. A. P. Stokes (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master) appeared for the prosecution, and from his statement, and the evidence called it appeared that the false pretences consisted in the accused having obtained the sum stated on four godown orders, which he gave to the Bank, representing that the cargo mentioned in the godown receipts was in certain godowns, whereas during the period, and up to the present time there was not and had not been since any such cargo. The witnesses examined consisted of Mr. M. Speelman, of the Russo-Chinese Bank, who

proved that the accused obtained the sum of Tls. 85,000 on the representations; Mr. G. Meuser, of the firm of Messrs. Dodwell and Company, Ltd., and two godown men, who were called to prove that Mr. Burgoyne did not have between the 28th of March and the 10th of October, 1898, the dates in question, or up to present time, any such cargo as was referred to, which was represented as being skins and piece-goods.

In answer to the statutory caution the accused replied he had nothing to say beyond the fact that he was guilty. He was then committed for trial. He was admitted to bail in the sum of Tls. 10,000—himself in Tls. 5,000, and two other sureties in the sum of Tls. 5,200 each.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE "CITY OF PEKING" IN COLLISION.

Shanghai, 21st January.

The *City of Peking*, which arrived here yesterday, had a serious collision on the night of Sunday, the 15th inst., when in the Kii Channel on her way to Kobe, being run into by a Japanese man-of-war and considerably damaged. About ten minutes to seven, just before dinner, the passengers were alarmed by a tremendous crash, and in a few moments it was found that the vessel had been struck on the port side by a man-of-war, afterwards discovered to be of Japanese nationality, about 40 feet of the rails and one of the boats being carried away. The force of the collision seemed tremendous, and it was feared that the steamer had sustained serious damage—in fact that she would sink. The most praiseworthy coolness was, however, preserved by all, and very noticeably by the ladies. Orders were given for the boats to be swung, and life-belts were served out, but, on examination, it was discovered that, fortunately, the damage was not so serious as had been feared and that the steamer could proceed safely to Kobe, where she arrived about midnight. The behaviour of the man-of-war after the collision is inexplicable, for without stopping to enquire what damage she had caused she went on her way.

An interesting function took place after dinner on Thursday night on board the *City of Peking*, when Capt. Smith was presented with an address by the passengers. Mr. F. A. Blake, brother of the Governor of Hongkong, was made spokesman. He said: "Captain Smith, the passengers on this ship, having a vivid recollection of the fearful peril to which they were exposed at the time we were run into by the Japanese war-ship, deemed it a duty and a pleasure to give some expression to the admiration they feel for the splendid manner in which you, your officers and crew, acted at that trying time. The coolness with which your orders were issued, and the alacrity with which they were obeyed, gave evidence of the splendid discipline maintained on your ship; and we all feel that, under Providence, we could not have entrusted our lives into better hands. The ladies, God bless them, displayed fortitude and courage seldom equalled and never excelled by us the opposite sex. 'Tis such material as they are made of that raises a nation of heroes. Your wonderful coolness under those trying circumstances had the effect of reassuring us all, and of preventing the panic which usually prevails at such times. I will now read this little address, which if you deem worthy of preserving, may serve to remind you in years to come of the incident so fraught with peril to us all, and of those friends here gathered, who wish you good luck and Godspeed wherever you may be."

The address was as follows:—

"On board the *City of Peking*,
19th January, 1899.

"Dear Sir,—We, the undersigned, passengers on the Pacific Mail steamer *City of Peking*, cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing our deep appreciation of the splendid seamanlike qualities displayed by you when the ship was run into by a Japanese war-vessel, and all expected but a few moments would elapse till we would be struggling for our lives in the shark-infested, pitiless ocean. During the thrilling moments which ensued after the shock of the collision, you never lost your presence of mind for a moment; and realising your duty to

those whose lives had been entrusted to your care, promptly ordered the boats cleared for lowering as calmly as though there was no danger. Your cool bravery in that trying moment had the effect of allaying our fears, and preventing the panic which usually prevails at such times, and we hope that when we have occasion to recross the wide ocean we may have the good fortune to sail in your ship, or our having a commander as capable, brave, and uniformly courteous as yourself.

"Wishing you a long life, great happiness, and prosperity in the service you so highly adorn.—We remain, your staunch friends for ever.

(Signed)

JULIA DE PARK CROFTIN WALCOTT,
MARY BEEKEY SAWTILLE,
ETHEL POSTLEY,
F. MERLE HUTCHISON,
GESSIE M. HALL,
JOHN W. TAYLOR,
H. E. NICHOLS (U. S. Navy),
STERLING POSTLEY,
JOSEPH P. MCQUAID,
JACOB MULLER,
M. A. REBERT,
W. E. JEWELL,
FRANK A. BLAKE.

"To Capt. J. Tremaine Smith, Commanding steamer *City of Peking*."

—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE REBELLION IN ANHUI.

Shanghai, 21st January.

Telegraphic despatches received by the local mandarins yesterday and the day before report that the rebellion in Anhui province is rapidly spreading and may involve all Central China, including the province of Anhui, Honan, Kiangsu, Kiangsi, and Hunan,—the disturbance in Szechuan being generally considered a local insurrection unconnected with the events occurring in the above-named provinces. It is stated that the Shuchou and Kuyang rebels in Anhui have been strongly reinforced by desperadoes from across the Honan borders and that the situation is considered to be very grave owing to the warlike nature of the rebels, all of them accustomed to fighting from their youth, and expected to fight desperately. The Shuchou rebels are led by a degraded military B. A. named Nin (anglice "Ox"), a notorious desperado who has a following of a compact regiment of 2,400 well armed men. These men are really the nucleus of the rebel forces, while, with the exception of the Honan contingent, who are known for their courage and recklessness, but under their own leaders, the other portions of the rebel army are looked upon by the officials as mere rabble. The local troops of Shuchou and Kuyang are simply panic stricken having, it seems, always held Nin and his personal followers in great awe. Hence, when a battle was fought before the walls of Kuyang, ten days ago, the local soldiers and town militia who had been compelled by their officials to turn out and face the advancing rebels outside the walls of the city barely waited for the approach of the foe, but simply threw down their arms and scampered into the city gates, in mortal fear lest they should be closed in their faces as well as those of the rebels. The only real fighting on that occasion was done by the Lungshan Battalion—a force sent from another part of the province to quell the rebellion. The troops lost over 200 in killed or wounded and the Major Commanding and a captain were also killed. The gravity of the situation may be judged by the Governor of Honan and Viceroy Liu of Kiangsu province also sending all the troops available to assist the Anhui Governor in crushing this rebellion, the usual way in China being to allow each Governor to do his own fighting in his province, while the neighbouring Governors simply move up troops to their own frontiers to prevent rebels from entering their own borders and creating trouble. This new departure may therefore be taken as a proof that Viceroy Liu and the Governors of the provinces around him are more united and friendly than was believed.—*N. C. Daily News.*

The resumption by Mr. R. F. Drury of the duties of Sanitary Surveyor on the 18th instant is gazetted.

THE COLLISION IN MOJI HARBOUR.

A naval court of inquiry was held on the 13th January in the British Consulate, Nagasaki, before H.B.M. Consul Mr. J. H. Longford, into the circumstances attending the collision in Moji Harbour on the 13th December between the P. & O. steamer *Brindisi* and the Japanese steamer *Yayeyama-maru*, whereby the former vessel was considerably damaged, the latter being sunk. Captain J. F. Curtis, of the British sailing ship *West Lothian* and Captain W. Fraser, of the British sailing ship *Glenlee*, acted as assessors. The owners of the Japanese steamer were not represented during the proceedings. The evidence of Captain Watkins, Mr. Vine, the chief officer, Mr. Randall, the chief engineer, a Malay quartermaster, and a Lascar A.B., of the *Brindisi*, showed that at the time of the accident the latter vessel was lying in the usual anchorage and was properly lighted. This evidence was also corroborated by Captain W. Black, an Inland Sea pilot.

The finding of the Court was given on Saturday, and is as follows:—

That the collision was caused by the *Yayeyama-maru* attempting to cross the bows of the *Brindisi* while at anchor, without making sufficient allowance for the strong ebb tide.

That the *Brindisi* was well found and sufficiently manned; that she was securely anchored in a proper place; that her anchor lights were burning brightly; and that a proper and efficient anchor watch was maintained.

That no blame can be attached to the master, first mate, or crew of the *Brindisi* in respect of the collision.

That immediately on the occurrence of the collision all the officers and crew of the *Brindisi* proceeded to their stations, and that efficient discipline was maintained on board; and

That the measures taken by the master of the *Brindisi* subsequent to the collision were seamanlike and proper.

The Court considers that the conduct of the whole of the engine-room staff of the *Brindisi* is worthy of high commendation for the promptitude with which they took up their stations below and continued to carry on their duties when their ship was making water and in a dangerous position; and also that the Master is worthy of commendation for the promptitude with which he ordered a ladder to be extended to the *Yayeyama-maru*, by means of which the whole of the crew of the latter was saved.—*Nagasaki Press.*

GERMAN REPRESENTATION ON THE SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Der Ostasiatische Lloyd in its last issue says:—

A largely attended meeting of German merchants in Shanghai on Wednesday last decided to vote in favour of two German candidates at the next Municipal election. The following was the resolution adopted unanimously:—

"Meeting as ratepayers on the 11th of January, 1899, in the Club Concordia we are of opinion that the German community will be only properly represented by two German members. We therefore resolve to vote for Messrs. Buchheister and Rohde, and to endeavour to get others to support them."

As the British ratepayers are more than thrice as numerous as the Germans, it might appear at first sight that the Germans were not entitled to two seats, seeing that the British have only six. But, as is well known, the ninth is always occupied by an American. On the other hand it must not be forgotten that the growing interests of Germany in Shanghai are not adequately represented by two seats on the Council. It can also be properly said that votes should be weighed, not counted. The British members of the Council do not alone represent the interests of their own particular countrymen, but frequently those of Chinese, who, in increasing numbers are registered as land-owners by British solicitors, land brokers, etc. The Germans, however, may claim that a similar furtherance of purely Chinese interests has never been aided by them. On this account, by the return of two German councillors, the real interests of the whole foreign community of the Settlement

would be properly represented. In no way is it the intention of the German colony to throw down the gauntlet to their British fellow-residents in bringing forward two candidates. On the contrary the sincere wish of the German community is for the continuance and increase of the present admirable relations between Germans and British so far as municipal representation is concerned. We therefore are of opinion that the more active participation of German members in the affairs of the Municipal Council will be towards this end, especially when the greater interest in common affairs taken by the Germans is remembered.

PROPOSED ANGLO-JAPANESE BANK.

The *Kobe Chronicle* translates from a Japanese paper the following Tokyo despatch dated the 16th January:—

A number of influential bankers in Tokyo, in concert with British merchants at Yokohama, propose to organize a bank under the style of Anglo-Japanese Bank, with a capital of ten million yen. It is proposed that 4 millions of the capital should be undertaken by the Japanese and 6 millions by British capitalists. Of the latter amount, a British firm at Yokohama promises to subscribe 3 million yen. The balance of three millions will be put on the English market.

INCENDIARISM AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 21st January.

At a special general meeting of members of the Fire Insurance Association of Shanghai held at the offices of the Chamber of Commerce, 1, Kinkiang Road, yesterday afternoon, Mr. J. A. Ballard, chairman of the Association presiding, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That in view of the recent greatly increased prevalence of fires in Chinese property, many of which are believed to be purposely caused, the Municipal Council be requested to immediately call the attention of the Chinese Authorities to the existing state of affairs, to point out to them the absurdly inadequate sentences imposed in arson cases by the Mixed Court, and to request the Authorities, in the public interest, to issue a proclamation stating that in future offenders will be punished with the utmost rigour of the law."

It was further resolved:—

"That in view of the constantly increasing tax on the time and energies of the Fire Brigade arising from the continuous increase of life and property to be protected in these Settlements, a request be addressed to the Municipal Council suggesting that in the interests of all Ratepayers and others it is desirable to form a small special committee, consisting of members or nominees of the Municipal Council with representatives of the Committee of this Association and with Mr. McLeod (Chairman of the Fire Commission) to enquire into and report to the Municipal Council without delay on such remedial measures as they may deem effective for the strengthening of the Fire Brigade, and all other matters in connection therewith."—*N. C. Daily News.*

HONGKONG.

The German cruiser *Prinzess Wilhelm* arrived on Thursday from Amoy.

There were 2,548 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week of whom 184 were Europeans. Mr. Glass, C.I.E., and Captain Twiss, R.E., of the Peking Syndicate, arrived on the 25th January from Calcutta.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 25.9, and for the Chinese community 18.6.

While route-marching on Wednesday Mr. Boyts, lieutenant of marines on the *Centurion*, was thrown from his horse and injured somewhat seriously.

The names of the Hon. W. M. Goodman and Mrs. Goodman appear among the passengers booked to leave London by the P. & O. steamer *India* on the 9th February.

H.M.S. *Centurion* left for Manila on Thursday and H.M.S. *Narcissus* for Manila and Iloilo. It is probable that the former will be away ten days and the latter six weeks.

On 20th January the *Don Juan de Austria*, one of the Spanish cruisers sunk at Cavite Bay and raised by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, arrived here.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Dr. Stedman and Mr. E. Osborne have been appointed members of the Medical Board vice Dr. Hartigan and Mr. N. J. Ede, who have left the colony.

Lieutenant Hobson, the hero of the *Merrimac* incident, was a passenger by the *Gaelic*. He is to superintend the refitting at Hongkong of the vessels taken from the Spaniards at Manila.

We hear that the Chinese hongts dealing in yarn, rice, and flour have all had an unprofitable time lately and that from twelve to fifteen firms are expected to close their doors in Hongkong and over twenty in Canton.

The afternoon performance of the pantomime on Saturday gave immense delight to a crowded house of children and their parents and friends. We understand that in the next series of performances, commencing this evening, a number of new songs are to be introduced.

The return of communicable disease reported as occurring in the colony last week shows that there was one fatal case of plague in the city, two cases of diphtheria (one in the city and one outside), one case of enteric fever in the city, and one case of smallpox in the harbour.

On Tuesday Inspector Duncan visited the Wanchai Market and found a fishmonger named Chun Kee using a pair of scales which were 10 per cent. against the purchaser. The scales were seized and the offender brought before the Magistracy on the 20th January and fined \$100.

A coaling feat has been performed by the Japanese steamer *Kachidate Maru*, which arrived in Hongkong on Monday. When at Kutchinotzu she took in 4,100 tons of coal in 20 hours, which is at the rate of 205 tons an hour. Thirty-three gangs of coolies were engaged.

The Coroner's return for 1898 shows that 32 formal enquiries were held, against 69 in 1897, five of the enquiries being on the bodies of Europeans and Americans, two on Indians and Malays, and 25 on Chinese. 1,365 bodies were found and buried without formal enquiries, against 602 for 1897.

At about half-past eight on Tuesday night a Chinaman, who looked as if he had been badly used, called at No. 2, Police Station, and reported that he had been attacked by two men, who robbed him of \$16 and then decamped. A search was instituted for the man's assailants, but it was unsuccessful. The man was subsequently taken to the hospital, where his bruises were attended to.

On Friday night a fire broke out at a sausage shop at 254, Hollywood Road, it being caused through some burning charcoal igniting some rubbish in the cookloft. The Fire Brigade, in charge of the Superintendent, was soon on the scene, and saved the first and second floors and also the adjoining premises. The third floor, however, was destroyed, the damage amounting to \$1,500, which is covered by insurance in the Chin On Insurance Company.

Under the new Vehicles Ordinance the carry-

ing of lamps at night by bicyclists will be made compulsory, a very desirable regulation. The Governor is empowered to make by-laws and in these no doubt "scorching" will be dealt with. Everyone will admit that regulation of the bicycle traffic is necessary, but it would perhaps be as well if bicyclists formed an association for the protection of their interests, in case there should be any tendency to make the law unduly oppressive. Another item of interest in the Ordinance is that private chairs are to be compelled to carry lights. That seems rather unnecessary, seeing how well lit the streets and roads are and that the private chair traffic is mostly confined to the upper levels, where there is little or no wheeled traffic.

On 25th Jan. Commander Hastings fined five coolies \$5 each for reckless driving and also ordered them to pay \$10 compensation to a boy who had been injured through their carelessness. It seems that on Monday they were taking a truck of firewood from Kennedytown to 58, Praya West. On coming to a little hill they asked a boy to assist them. He accordingly went behind to push and the coolies letting go the truck ran on to the boy and broke his leg. He is now in the hospital.

At the Magistracy on 23rd Jan. two Chinamen who had been confined in the Police Station at Hunghom were charged with attempting to break away. It appeared that on the station guard going into the cell in which they were confined on Sunday night he found that they had made a hole in the roof and were attempting to escape. We understand, however, that even if they had not been discovered when they were they could not have got away. They were each fined \$5, and ordered to pay \$3 compensation.

On Tuesday afternoon Kowloon Inland Lot No. 870, which is situated at Mong Kok Tsui, Kowloon, was offered for sale by auction. The lot contains 22,750 square feet. The annual rent is \$182. The upset price was \$2,780, and the lot was knocked down to Chinese for \$3,725. The term is 75 years. The previous afternoon Inland Lot 1,518 (which is situated in MacDonnell Road and contains 15,400 square feet) was bought for a similar term by Mr. A. A. Gutierrez for \$2,550, the upset price being \$1,848.

The report on the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund for the year 1898 shows a balance in hand of \$55,204.03. The average monthly contributions now amount to about \$850. During the year 53 contributors joined the service, 12 left, and seven died. There are at present on the books 225 compulsory contributors, of whom 104 are bachelors, 128 are married, and six are widowers. The total number of children on the books is 228. There are in the list seven pensioners, whose pensions aggregate \$680.07 per annum.

At the Magistracy on Saturday a junk owner was charged, on the information of P. C. Burchell, with carrying arms in excess of the number in his clearance paper, and fined \$100 and the rifles confiscated. The junk has a capacity of six thousand piculs, and cleared at the Harbour Office with three rifles. On boarding the junk, P. C. Burchell found two rifles in excess—new Mausers. The defendant's clearance at the Harbour Office showed three rifles, but a clearance paper at one of the Chinese Customs Stations shows he had cleared there with five rifles.

At a quarter-past ten on Monday night Chief Detective Inspector Hanson and Inspector Moffat, with some Chinese constables, visited No. 1, Sam Ka lane, and on the second floor found the game of Nai Man in full swing, some 12 men being engaged in it. At the Magistracy yesterday two were charged with being keepers, three with being concerned in the keeping of the house, and the rest with gaming. One of the defendants is an interpreter in the employ of the Government. First defendant was fined \$125, second and eighth \$75 each, eleventh and twelfth \$25 each, tenth discharged, and the rest \$15 each.

Amongst the through passengers by the *Balaorai* were four of the officers of the First Chinese Regiment to be formed at Weihaiwei, namely, Major Bruce, West Riding Regiment, who will be second-in-command, and the company commanders, Captain M. W. Watson, 2nd West Riding Regiment; Lieutenant W. H. Dent, 2nd Yorkshire Regiment; and Lieutenant Molyneux Montgomerie, 3rd Grenadier Guards. It is stated in papers received by the mail that the regiment will be for general service, and will be available wherever required, and not for Weihaiwei alone. Mauritius has been mentioned as one of the first destinations of the regiment outside China.

Mr. F. A. Blake arrived by the P.M. steamer *City of Peking* on a visit to his brother, H.E. Sir Henry Blake, and is staying at Government House. Mr. Blake has been resident in the United States for a number of years and has acquired American citizenship. He was on the *City of Peking* at the time she was run into by a Japanese man-of-war, as reported in another column.

The Vancouver Daily News-Advertiser of the 31st December says:—A passage of unusual interest to Captain Watt, of the four-masted British schooner *Iranian*, now in the Royal Roads, was completed on Wednesday when the ship dropped anchor 65 days out from Hongkong. Seven days before, when the vessel was several hundred miles off the Cape, twin daughters were born to Mrs. Watt. The voyage of the *Iranian* was very tempestuous. Although coming in the same direction as the missing ship *Oeltic Bard*, Captain Watt saw nothing of the vessel. He saw the vessel leave Hongkong now 99 days ago and considered then that she was too lightly ballasted.

At the Magistracy on 23th Jan. a German artist named C. Wutke, residing at the Hongkong Hotel, was fined for street obstruction. On the afternoon of 23rd January, the artist was standing on the footpath at Praya East, sketching. He had an easel in front of him, a box of paints at his side, and a coolie was holding an umbrella over his head. A large crowd of Chinese collected around him and created an obstruction. An Indian constable sighted the crowd first about four o'clock. He asked the artist if he had a permit and the German said he had none. The constable then told him he was creating an obstruction, and asked him to move away. The artist did not answer the Indian, who went away. Subsequently P.C. Kerr, who was on special duty to prevent obstructions on the Praya, came to him, and as the man declined to move on he was taken into custody.—

At the Magistracy on 23th Jan. the case against the German artist Wutke, who was fined \$5 the previous day for street obstruction, was reopened on the application of Captain Superintendent May. Mr. May said that owing to inadvertence the matter was not referred to him before being taken into Court. Had the whole circumstances been explained to him he should not have allowed the case to come into court. Under the circumstances he did not wish to press the case in any way. There had been a good deal of misunderstanding. The fine was remitted.

The new regiment has not been with us long but various members of it have already given the police some trouble in consequence of their proneness to get drunk, batter policemen, and damage rickshaws. On Saturday, however, one of them—Edward Tinsley—appeared in the dock at the Magistracy charged with a more serious offence—with stealing from the counter of the Li Fung jeweller's shop, 134, Queen's Road Central, a silver watch valued at \$5. He went into the shop in question on Friday night and asked to see some rings. Several were placed before him, but he pretended to be dissatisfied with them, saying that they were too big. He then asked, "Have you any cheap kind of watch?" "Oh, yes," replied the shopman, who at once brought a couple of second-hand watches out and laid them on the counter. Defendant said he should also want a chain. The shopman turned round to get some and then another shopman saw defendant slip one of the watches up his sleeve. When charged with the theft defendant said he had no watch and left the shop, going to the Colonial Hotel, where he entered into conversation with some of his comrades, to whom he is supposed to have handed over the watch. On his re-appearing in the street the shopman, who had followed him, told his story to P. C. McSwayde, who charged defendant with stealing the watch. Defendant made some reply about some other soldier being the culprit, but the shopman declared that defendant was the only person in the shop when the watch was missed. The man was accordingly taken to the Central Police Station and searched, but no watch could be found on him. Commander Hastings, in sentencing him to 42 days with hard labour, said there had been several of the regiment before him for being drunk and disorderly. That was no great discredit, but a man who was guilty of stealing was a disgrace to the British army.

At the Magistracy on 25th Jan. a seaman named Charles Thorpe, formerly of the *Changsha*, was charged with stealing a boat the property of the Dock Company. At about noon on the 19th inst. an Indian watchman at Hung Hom Dock saw defendant leave the *Changsha*, which was in the dry-dock, carrying his box. There were two German men-of-war men in uniform with him. He saw them put the box in a boat and get in. Before they could row away the watchman asked defendant if the boat did not belong to the dock, and he said no, it belonged to the ship. Subsequently it was reported to the head-watchman that a small two-oared boat was missing, and on hearing the Indian watchman's story he informed the police. The boat was afterwards found at Wanchai with some of defendant's clothes in it. Defendant was arrested on Tuesday in Connaught Road. When asked by the Magistrate if he had anything to say, defendant said he thought the boat belonged to the German warship *Kaiser*. He could not get a sampan, so he paid three German men-of-war men \$2 each to bring him across. The Magistrate told him that this story would not wash. It was not likely he would pay \$6 to be brought across from Hongkong when he could have been brought across for 10 cents. He would be sentenced to 42 days' imprisonment.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The two machines for the coining of dollars, which, as reported sometime ago, have been borrowed from the Canton Government by General Sou, of Kwangsi, will be sent to Kwangsi in a few days under the charge of the Magistrate of Sanoi. These machines are to be especially used to coin dollars to pay the railway workers.

On the 21st instant a junk laden with a good number of passengers and valuable goods, mostly raw silk, was despatched from Wangkong to Fatsan. When she was near a place named Loong Hing, a pirate boat, which looked like a revenue cruiser, for some flags were flying on board and the fobbers all wore uniforms, came up to her and ordered the junk to stop. The master of the junk, taken in by the trick, promptly obeyed the order. The robbers then came across and took away all the valuable goods and money found on board the junk.

Five junks filled with illicit arms and ammunition were sailing in Sanling district on the 1th inst., when the guard boats of the place, being informed of the smuggling, ordered them to stop in order to have a search. The junks would not yield and fired at the guard boats, which returned the compliment. During the encounter four junks succeeded in getting away and only one was seized by the guard boats but the people of the captured junk had all made good their escape.

A letter has been received from Kwangsi to the effect that the chief leader of the late Kwangsi rebellion, Li Lop-ting, for whose capture a reward of over ten thousand dollars had been offered, has been captured by the soldiers of General Sou.

An Imperial edict was issued on the 17th inst. dismissing Tsang Foo, Governor of Hupoh, from his office and disqualifying him to hold any office in future on the ground that he memorialised the Throne some time ago on some measures of reform.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA			
EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.			
	1898-99	1897-98	
	lbs.	lbs.	
Hankow and Shanghai...	13,478,766	13,863,361	
Foochow	13,200,549	12,622,570	
Amoy	688,318	685,631	
Canton	4,143,760	5,455,162	
	31,511,393	32,631,744	

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA			
	1898-99	1897-98	
	lbs.	lbs.	
Shanghai and Hankow...	22,691,075	19,462,293	

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.			
	1898-99	1897-98	
	lbs.	lbs.	
Shanghai	15,661,674	20,228,971	
Amoy	12,034,647	11,622,772	
Foochow	7,297,412	7,126,264	
	34,990,733	41,878,007	

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.			
	1898-99	1897-98	
	lbs.	lbs.	
Yokohama	24,964,397	25,670,893	
Kobe	12,166,816	24,475,448	
	37,131,213	50,146,341	

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 21st January.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—The Home markets keep firm. Gold Kilings are quoted in Lyons at Frs. 29.75. Raw Silk.—A moderate business has been done this week, and total settlements amount to some 750 bales, and the close prices have a hardening tendency. Yellow Silks.—are still enquired for, and some further contracts have been made in Mienchews and Mienyangs. Stocks are almost nil. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, January 14th to 20th, are: 863 bales White, 131 bales Yellow, and 160 bales Wild Silks. Reels and Filatures.—The market is quieter, both for Hand and Steam Filatures, the prices asked by holders curtailing business, especially in the latter. About 150 bales Hand Filatures have been settled for America; business has been done in Steam Filatures to the extent of 200/300 bales. The Export of Steam Filatures of late is: 2,313 bales to France, 1,327 bales to America, & 78 bales to London. Wild Silk.—Further contracts have been made, some 300 bales of Filatures and 200 bales of Raws having been settled. Waste Silk.—Market quiet, a contract is reported for 150 piculs Tussah. Was e 60 per cent. No. I. 4 per cent. No. II. at Frs. 24½ average price, for delivery in March. About 40/50 piculs White Coarse Green 7½ per cent. No. I, 30 per cent. No. II, have been bought at 1s 60. Ponges.—Further settlements, to the extent of 1,000 piculs of Shantung, are reported:—

19 in. by 19	yards by 26/27 oz.	4.60.
33/34 in. by 19/19½	yards by 37/36 oz.	8.10.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.			
	1898-99	1897-98	
	bales	bales	
Shanghai	48,628	42,006	
Canton	24,138	18,611	
Yokohama	16,263	14,596	
	89,029	75,213	

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.			
	1898-99	1897-98	
	bales	bales	
Shanghai	5,482	8,691	
Canton	7,901	9,471	
Yokohama	19,204	23,006	
	32,587	41,168	

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 28th January.—The advance has been arrested and the market is slightly weaker. Quotations for Formosa are \$51.50 to \$52.00. Sales, 200 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 28th January.—The market has recovered and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—
 Shekloong, No. 1, White... \$7.70 to \$7.75 per cwt.
 do. " " White... 7.15 to 7.20 "
 Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.95 to 5.00 "
 do. " " Brown... 4.80 to 4.85 "
 Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.55 to 7.60 "
 do. " " White... 7.40 to 7.45 "
 Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 4.67 to 4.72 "
 do. " " Brown... 4.55 to 4.60 "
 Foochow Sugar... 10.00 to 11.00 "
 Siam... 9.95 to 10.00 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, sailed on the 21st January. For London:—125 bales raw silk, 25 boxes bristles, 4 cases silk piece goods, and packages sundries. For France:—677 bales raw silk, 2 cases silk piece goods, 17 packages hair, 10 packages tea, 4 cases curios.

Per P. & O. steamer Japan, sailed on the 17th January. For Manchester:—150 bales waste silk. For London:—385 bales waste silk, 1,834 rolls mats and matting, 74 bales canes, 201 cases Chinaware, 12 cases copper gongs, 7 cases blackwoodware, 175 cases palm leaf fans, 5 cases cigars, 12 cases effects and curios, 9 cases blackwoodware, 1 case feathers, 41 boxes essential oil, 12 packages sundries, and 2,192 boxes tea.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 27th Jan.—Bengal.—The market closes quiet, and rates remain unchanged, latest quotations being New Patna \$810 and New Benares \$815.

Malwa.—A good amount of business was put through at the beginning of this week, but the demand has weakened the last few days and the market closes quiet at the following figures:—

New \$730 with allowance of 0 to 24 catty.
Old (2 1/2 yrs.) \$740 " " 0 to 2 "
" (4 ") \$760 " " 0 to 2 "
" (5 1/2 ") \$780 " " nil.

Persian.—There is very little business to report in this drug during the past week. There has been an improvement in prices for Paper-wrapped, which is quoted at \$650/730, quotations for Oily being \$560/650 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna 2,242 chests
New Benares 336 "
Malwa 553 "
Persian 802 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 21	810	—	815	—	730	—
Jan. 22	810	—	815	—	730	—
Jan. 23	810	—	815	—	730	—
Jan. 24	810	—	815	—	730	—
Jan. 25	810	—	815	—	730	—
Jan. 26	810	—	815	—	730	—
Jan. 27	810	—	815	—	730	—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 28th January.—Prices continue to advance. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary \$2.65 to \$2.70
" Round good quality 2.80 to 2.85
" Long 2.95 to 3.00
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 1 3.00 to 3.05
" Garden, " No. 1 3.15 to 3.20
" White 3.80 to 3.85
" Fine Cargo 4.00 to 4.05

COALS.

HONGKONG, 28th January.—There has been no change in the position of this market during the past week. Quotations are:—

Carliff \$18.00 to 19.00 ex ship, nominal
Australian 10.00 to 10.50 ex ship, "
Miki Lump } 9.00 to 10.00 nominal
and Small }
Moffi Lump } 7.50 to 9.00 ex ship, nominal
Hongay double } 12.00 ex Godown
screened }
Hongay Lump } 8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust } 5.50 to —
Briquettes 1.00 to —

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 27th January.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—1,250 bales No. 10 at \$68 to \$86, 500 bales No. 12 at \$72 to \$77, 200 bales No. 16 at \$78 to \$86.75, 800 bales No. 20 at \$91 to \$91.50. Japanese Yarn.—5 bales No. 10 at \$79, 50 bales No. 12 at \$78, 50 bales No. 16 at \$85, 50 bales No. 20 at \$86.50. Grey Shirtings.—60 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. 3 Dogs \$2.97, 400 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Lion at \$1.90, 250 pieces 10 lbs. 2 Stag at \$3.80, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red Lion at \$3.92, 80 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Lion at \$1.90. White Shirtings.—500 pieces Blue Dragon at \$5.45, 250 pieces S. Q. at \$4.40. T. Cloths.—600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. G. Dragon at \$2.74, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag \$2.36, 1,125 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Red Stag at \$2.36, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Red Stag at \$2.36. Drills.—150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.35. Spanish Stripes.—12 pieces assort d B B B at \$0.65. Union Spanish Stripes.—80 pieces B B B 65 cents. Camlets.—100

pieces assort d Birds at \$12.30. Long Ells.—250 pieces 10 lbs. Scarlet Rabbit and Stag at \$7.80, 250 pieces Scarlet Stag at \$6.90. Lastings.—200 pieces black J M at \$16.20, 200 pieces woollen J M at \$16.20, 100 pieces black woollen J M at \$16.20. Bengal Cotton.—49 bales at \$16.50.

HANGHAI, 21st January.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report.)—The natural tendency which the trade has to slacken off on the approach of the native New Year, accompanied as it is with the annual settling, has been accelerated during the week by the stronger position Exchange has taken up. At the same time many imports are getting to the end of their available supplies, being sold well forward, while the position of the home markets is such that fresh buying is almost out of the question. The market is certainly strong, though quieting off at the close, and from all appearances at present there is every prospect of a brisk trade when business is resumed after the holidays. The Auctions this week were held on the usual terms as to delivery, and consequently prices have suffered somewhat in many instances as might have been expected. There is no special news from the Outports, the weather keeping very mild in the North, but considerable snow has fallen all up the Yangtze Valley, with the exception of this neighbourhood which is greatly in need of it. The market for Indian Yarns is quiet, though fairly steady. Firmer rates could be obtained for extended delivery, but forward Exchange is not acceptable to holders. Japan Yarns are in steady demand at about previous prices, while Local Spinners are in good request at firm rates, but spinners show a reluctance to sell. Work is progressing satisfactorily and the labour question appears to have been successfully solved. It is extremely difficult to get any information regarding the working of the Mills, but as an indication of what can be done here we may mention that one Mill, with 40,000 spindles, produced an average of 137 bales per diem during the last week, the counts averaging 14's.

MATERS, 23rd January.—(From Messrs Alex. Balford & Co.'s Report.)—We are pleased to be able to report that a fair business has been done during the week, which is rather better than we anticipated, considering the time of year. A few items have been sold the particulars of which transactions we have not been able to obtain in time for the mail. We learn that an order for 600 tons of Cobles has been booked, the terms of which were privately arranged, but we believe the price is somewhere about 110s. We are able to report the following transactions: 100 tons Scrap Iron at 76s., c.i.f.; 100 tons Cart Tyres at 104s., c.i.f.; 200 tons Steel Plate Cuttings at 83s. 6d., c.i.f.; 100 tons Bale Hoops at 97s., c.i.f.; 150 tons Goffin Nail Rods at 127s., c.i.f.; 200 tons American Horse-shoes at 202 1/2, c.i.f.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 27th January.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 2/00

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.47
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.51

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 2.00

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 47 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight 48 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145 1/2
Bank, on demand 146

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145 1/2
Bank, on demand 146

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 72
Private, 30 days' sight 73

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 5 1/2 % pm.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 1 1/2 % pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand 1 1/2 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate 10.07
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 52.75

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 27th January.—The market has ruled somewhat quieter during the week under review and without any special features to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai after further small sales at 28 1/2 per cent. prem. in the early part of the week gradually weakened a little and sales were effected at 280, 279, and 278 for cash, at 281 and 282 for February, and at 281 for March. Market closes rather firmer with buyers at 279 cash. Nationals have been negotiated at \$20 and \$20 1/2, closing steady at the latter rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at quotation, Unions at \$230, and Straits at \$7, all in small lots. Cantons and the Northern Insurances continue neglected.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have been on offer at \$317 1/2 without inducing sales. Chinas continue steady at \$90 1/2, but without business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao, remain steady at \$28, after small sales at \$27 1/2, at which latter rate more shares could be placed, whilst at the former a few shares are on offer. Indo-Chinas have ruled steady to strong at \$61 to \$62 and at \$63 to \$63 1/2 for March delivery. China Manilas have changed hands in small lots at quotation. Douglases with sales at \$55, \$55 1/2, \$56, \$56 1/2, and \$57 have been in some demand and close steady at \$57. China Mutuels are still enquired for without bringing any shares into the market.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars remain dull and neglected; small forced sales are reported at \$167. Luzons quiet and without sales.

MINING.—Punjoms Ordinary continue on offer at \$6 1/2 without much business and Preferences are also obtainable at \$1.40. Charbonnages are still on offer at \$115 without inducing buyers to come forward. Queen Mines have changed hands in large lots at 55, 60, 65, and up to 95 cents per share, closing steady at last rate. Jelesbus have found buyers in the South at \$5.30 to \$5.75, but not many shares have been negotiated, the demand from Singapore being too general and the orders to buy in too many hands. Olivers and Great Easterns have changed hands in fair lots at quotations. Raubs have ruled much firmer and sales have been effected at \$47, \$47 1/2, \$48, \$48 1/2, \$49, and \$50, the market closing steady at last named rate. A demand for June delivery wired to Singapore elicited the fact that sellers at that port demand \$62.50 per share for that date; sales have been effected for June locally at \$55.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled steady with small sales at 300 per cent. and 304 per cent. prem. cash and at 308 and 310 for March delivery. Kowloon Wharves continue in demand and have changed hands at \$80, \$81, \$81 1/2, and \$82 for cash and at \$83 and \$84 for March delivery, market closing firm. Wanchais unchanged and without business. New Amoy Docks have found buyers at \$15 1/2.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue to change hands in small lots at \$81 cum div. Hotels have been negotiated at \$73, \$73 1/2, and \$74, closing quiet at the last rate. West Points have found buyers in small lots at \$19 cum and \$17.75 ex dividend. Humphreys Estates have improved to \$94 after sales at \$9 and \$9 1/2. Kowloon Lands have changed hands at quotation.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong have been enquired for and the rate has improved to \$83 without bringing out many sellers. The Northern Cotton Mills being without local business are quoted from the latest Shanghai Circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have found further buyers at \$26 1/2 and \$27 1/2. Star Ferries at \$12, Watsons at \$12 1/2 and \$13 1/2. Electric at \$11 for cash and \$11 1/2 for March. A few Lees are on offer at quotation. China Providents have ruled quiet at quotation. China Providents have ruled quiet at quotation with a small business, and a demand for Tramways continues unsatisfied.

Closing quotations are as follows—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	280 1/2 prem=
China & Japan, pref.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£4	£1
Do. deferred...	£1	£5.5s.
Nat'l. Bank of China		
B. Shares.....	£8	\$20 1/2, buyers
Founders Shares...	£8	\$20, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$1 1/4, sales
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$0.75
China Sugar.....	\$100	\$168, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
International.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Laou Kung Mow...	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Soychee.....	Tls. 500	Tls. 400
Yahloong.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 55
Hongkong.....	\$70	\$83, buyers
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$4	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$31, buyers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$27 1/2, sales
Do. New Issue.....	\$5	\$2 1/2
H. & China Bakery...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas...	£10	\$126
Hongkong Electric...	\$10	\$11, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways...	\$100	\$127 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Hotel.....	\$50	\$74, sellers
Hongkong Ice.....	\$25	\$120, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$82, buyers
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$172 1/2
H. & W. Dock.....	\$125	30 1/2 p. ct. prem.=
Insurance—		
Canton.....	\$50	\$150, sellers
China Fire.....	\$20	\$91, sellers
China Traders'.....	\$25	\$65, sellers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$317 1/2, sellers
North-China.....	\$25	Tls. 180
Straits.....	\$20	\$7, sellers
Union.....	\$50	\$230
Yangtze.....	\$60	\$125
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$77, ex div. sales
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$94, buyers
Kowloon Land & B....	\$30	\$18 1/2
West Point Building...	\$40	\$18, ex div. sellers
Luzon Sugar.....	\$100	\$54, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages.....	Fcs. 250	\$115, sellers
Great E. & C'donian...	\$5	\$83.5, buyers
Jebeu.....	\$5	\$5.75
Queens Mines Ltd....	25c.	95 cts., sellers
Oliver's Mines, A....	\$5	\$7
Do. B.....	\$24	\$5, buyers
Punjum.....	\$5	\$6.40, sales
Do. Preference.....	\$1	\$1.40, sales
Rubs.....	14s. 10d.	\$49, buyers
New Amoy Dock.....	\$64	\$15 1/2, sales
Steamship Coy.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$95
China Mutual Ord....	£10	£9. 10s., buyers
Do. Preference...	£10	£5 10s., buyers
Do. Do.....	£5	£3, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co....	\$50	\$57 1/2
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$28, sellers
Indo-China S. N.....	£10	\$62
Star Ferry.....	\$74	\$12, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.....	\$2	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos.....	\$2	\$1.50, buyers
Do.....	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37 1/2	\$39 1/2
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$12 1/2, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 23rd January. — From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—A fair amount of business has been done, chiefly in Bank and Wharf shares. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been sold locally at 25 1/4 to 27 1/2 cash, 26 1/2 for the 31st, and 27 1/2 for 31st March, and to Hongkong at 280 and exchange 72 for the 31st January. Some holders of shares on the London register have been selling them, and replacing them by purchases on the China registers. The difference in price is about \$105. National Bank of China shares have been changing hands to a considerable extent at \$17. Marine Insurance.—Several lots of North-China shares were placed at Tls. 180. Yangtze Insurance shares are offering at \$125. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were sold for the 31st at Tls. 45 1/2. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were sold at Tls. 36. In Hongkong there are sellers of China Sugar Refining shares at \$170. Lurons changed hands there at \$55. Docks Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. changed hands at Tls. 166, and a few are offering at the same rate. Shanghai Dock shares were placed at Tls. 95. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been in demand, and bus-

ness was done at Tls. 130 cash and Tls. 135 to Tls. 137 1/2 for the 31st March. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co. Shares are offering at Tls. 88, but buyers offer lower prices. Industrial.—In Cotton Mill shares Ewos were forced off at Tls. 65, but recovered to Tls. 70; Internationals were placed at Tls. 82 1/2 for the 15th March; Laou-kung-mows at Tls. 82 cash and Tls. 84/85 for March; and Yah-loongs at Tls. 55. Soy chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—The report and accounts for the year 1898 have been published, for the meeting of shareholders called for the 31st current. The Working Account shows a credit balance of Tls. 14,416.96, against Tls. 48,101.68 in the previous term. The Profit and Loss Account shows a debit balance of Tls. 18,337.61. Shanghai Ice shares were sold, and are wanted at Tls. 26. American Cigarette shares were sold for the 31st current at Tls. 62 1/2. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares were wanted at Tls. 200. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 65/64 cash, and Tls. 6 1/4 for 30th April. Shanghai-Lang at Tobacco shares have been neglected. Hall and Haltz shares were placed at \$31 1/2. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares are wanted at Tls. 60. Loans.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. Debentures were placed at Tls. 100 1/2.

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$468.75
Bank of China and Japan, defd.—\$55.0
Do. ordinary.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$17.00.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—79.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 82.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 400.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, &c.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$70.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$500.00
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 166.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 90.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 130.00.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$150.00.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$88.25.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$64.00.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$311.25.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 180.00.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$7.00.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$230.
Yangtze Insurance Assocn., Ltd.—\$125.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$78.00
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$84.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. (fully pd.)—Tls. 84.00.

MINING.

Punjum Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.00.
Punjum Mining Co., Ltd. pref. shares.—\$1.60
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$46.25
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 2.50.

SHIPPING.

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 71.00.
Do. ordinary, £5 paid.—Tls. 25.00.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 140.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$54.00
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$27.00.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 45.00.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 16.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 2.00.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 7.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$166.00.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$55.00
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 36.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 62.50.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$10.00
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 42.50.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$31.50.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$57.50.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 37.50.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 400.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 197.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 60.00.
Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd., Tls. 26.00.
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 95.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 95.00.
Do. New Issue.—Tls. 75.
Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 27.00
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 64.00.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.00.
Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$12.50.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 23rd January (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—For shipment homeward there is

a very limited quantity of cargo going forward, and it is fortunate for steamers that, as far as New York is concerned, freight is offering more plentifully in Japan and the south; consequently they are not dependent on Shanghai for any extensive support. Coastwise, coal rates are weaker, a settlement being reported at \$1.30 Moji to Shanghai. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; Northern Continent ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Baltic ore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net. 35s. per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 19s. nominal. New York via Pacific, 1 gold cent per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 27s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 27s. 6d. for tea, all net. Boston, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea. Philadelphia, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea. Coast rates.—Moji to Shanghai \$1.30 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.30 per ton coal; Newchwang to Kobe closed; Newchwang to Swatow closed; Newchwang to Canton closed; Wuhu to Canton 13 cands.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

HONGKONG.

January—

ARRIVALS.

20, Esang, British str., from Chinkiang.
21, Ballarat, British str., from Bombay.
21, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
21, Zafiro, Amr. des. ves., from Manila.
21, Deuterios, German str., from Saigon.
21, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
21, Columbia, Amr. str., from Portland.
21, Inaba Maru, Jap. str., from Shimonoseki.
21, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Kobe.
22, Cheangchow, British str., from Straits.
22, Fausang, British str., from Java.
22, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
22, Hupeh, British str., from San Francisco.
22, Independent, German str., from Hongay.
22, Sultan, British str., from Amoy.
22, Tonkin, French str., from Marseilles.
22, Mongkut, British str., from Saigon.
22, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
22, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F. cisco.
23, Choy sang, British str., from Shanghai.
23, Ohunsang, British str., from Samarang.
23, Devawongse, British str., from Bangkok.
23, Daphne, German str., from Amoy.
23, Dean, British str., from Singapore.
23, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notau.
23, Manila, British str., from Manila.
24, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
24, Nanetsu Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
24, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.
24, Propontis, British str., from Saigon.
24, Bisagno, Italian str., from Bombay.
24, Foochow, British str., from Samarang.
24, Stanfield, British bark, from Taiwanfoo.
24, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
24, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
24, Taiwan, British str., from Shanghai.
24, Broaemayne, British str., from Pankalan.
24, Canton, British str., from Saigon.
24, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
24, Tokyo Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
25, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
25, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
25, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
25, Eidsvold, British str., from Amoy.
25, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
25, Amigo, German str., from Hongay.
25, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'notau.
25, Doyo Maru, Jap. str., from K'notau.
25, Ebani, British str., from Moji.
25, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.

25, Kyoto Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 25, Kascuisko, British ship, from Newcastle.
 25, Esang, British str., from Canton.
 26, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
 26, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 26, Chiyo Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 26, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
 26, Energia, British str., from Amoy.
 26, Indus, French str., from Shanghai.
 26, Nestor, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Sabine-Rickmers, Brit. str., from Foochow.
 26, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 26, Prinzess Wilhelm, German cr., from Amoy.
 26, Commonwealth, British str., from Kobe.
 26, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 26, Oopack, British str., from Birkenhead.
 27, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 27, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 27, China, German str., from Saigon.
 27, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
 27, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 27, Marie Jebens, German str., from Saigon.
 27, Nanyang, German str., from Swatow.
 27, Clwyd, British bark, from New York.
 27, Kinshiu Maru, Jap. str., from Seattle.
 27, Nord, Norwegian str., from Saigon.

January—DEPARTURES.
 21, Pronto, German str., for Tournon.
 21, Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Saigon.
 21, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 21, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
 21, Sagami Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 21, Keelung Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 21, Hermes, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 21, Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 21, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 21, Esang, British str., for Canton.
 21, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 21, Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
 22, Namyang, British str., for Amoy.
 22, Tategama Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 22, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Ningchow, British str., for Newcastle.
 22, Clio, British str., for Singapore.
 22, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 22, Ballarat, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Tonkin, French str., for Shanghai.
 23, Swift, British gun-vessel, for Foochow.
 24, Ichang, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 24, Inaba Maru, Jap. str., for London.
 24, P. C. Klao, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Choyang, British str., for Canton.
 24, Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
 24, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Zafiro, Amr. d.-v., for Manila.
 24, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 24, Wuhu, British str., for Singapore.
 24, Vindobona, Austrian str., for Bombay.
 24, Dr. H. Jurg Kier, Norw. str., for Swatow.
 24, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 25, Kensington, British str., for London.
 25, Carlisle City, British str., for Nagasaki.
 25, Mongkut, British str., for Saigon.
 25, Astrid, Norwegian str., for Manila.
 25, Dagmar, Norwegian str., for Iloilo.
 25, Michael Jebens, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 25, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 25, Manila, British str., for Yokohama.
 25, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
 25, Grafton, British cru. ser., for a cruise.
 26, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 26, Centurion, British flag-ship, for Manila.
 26, Narcissus, British cruiser, for Manila.
 26, City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. Francisco.
 26, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 26, Isidoro Pons, Spanish str., for Manila.
 26, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
 26, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 27, Nestor, British str., for London.
 27, Deuterios, German str., for Saigon.
 27, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 27, Amigo, German str., for Hongay.
 27, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Hupeh, British str., for Saigon.
 27, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
 27, Nanchang, British str., for Saigon.
 27, Benvenue, British str., for Manila.
 27, Tokyo Maru, Jap. str., for Thursday Isl.
 27, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 27, Amara, British str., for Yokohama.
 27, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 27, Oopack, British str., for Amoy.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Ballaarat*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Eddy, Miss Eddy, Capt. H. M. Watson, Lieut. G. F. Montgomery, Lieut. W. K. Dent, Messrs. C. Crabb, and Harvey; from Marseilles, Capt. C. D. Bruce, Mr. A. Tucker and valet; from Bombay, Mr. Abdool Hussein Jaffergae; from Colombo, Messrs. Norie and Bramwell; from Melbourne, Mr. Humphrey; from Penang, Mr. Tan Eok Song. For Shanghai, from London, Misses Aspden, Callsen, A. C. Klahn, J. M. Hundere, T. Hattrem, M. G. Moir, and Mrs. H. H. Norie; from Marseilles, Messrs. Strauss and W. R. Hughes; from Brindisi, Mr. Pratisi; from Aden, Mr. E. Niebuhr; from Bombay, Mr. H. A. F. Currie. For Kobe, from London, Mr. E. Buxton Forman; for Yokohama, Mr. Anderson.

Per *Columbia* from Portland Or., Messrs. T. Wilson, J. K. Lewin, A. Bowie and W. Ailene.

Per *Tonkin*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Miss Martin, Consul and Mrs. Liebert; from Singapore, Mr. David and child, Mr. Marti, Mrs. Faraggi, Messrs. Ullmann and Schwartz; from Saigon, Mr. and Miss Piry, Revs. Gabriel and Samuel, and Mr. Michel. For Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Gratton, Simpson, Batty, Echford, Hurt, Bouquet, and Dickmann; from Singapore, Mr. Brumann; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Mayer. From Nagasaki for Marseilles, Mr. Pignatelli; from Saigon, Mr. Harti. For Kobe from Saigon, Mr. Weechure. For Yokohama from Marseilles, Mr. Schaar, Mrs. Matsourku, Messrs. Collin, Pescio, and Misseigne; from Batavia, Mr. Hamp; from Singapore, Mr. Guignard; from Haiphong, Mr. Kologashi.

Per *Choyang*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Crement, Mandel, and Smithers.

Per *City of Peking*, for Hongkong, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Postely, Mrs. Chas. G. Sawtell and child, Mrs. F. Hutchison, Mrs. Chas. Walcott, Mrs. S. Reed, Miss W. B. Parsons, Miss Parsons, and Master Parsons, Miss E. Hines, Rev. Jas. P. McQuaide, Capt. H. E. Nichols, Dr. M. A. Redert, Messrs. Jacob Muller, Jno. W. Taylor, F. C. Moore, J. W. Himes, F. A. Blake, W. F. Jewell, J. Anderson, W. C. Parsons, Jno. Mowbray, J. R. Stewart, B. F. Hutchison, U.S.N., John Barrett, G. Melchers, J. H. Jensen.

Per *Kachidate Maru*, from Kutchitsu, Mr. J. J. Spooner.

Per *Manila*, from London, Capt. W. Bland, R.A., Capt. Geoghegan, R.A., Lieut. Brown, R.E., Lieut. Longfield, R.E., Messrs. Walker and R. A. Eddie.

Per *Triumph*, from Pakhoi, &c., Mr. Wilkinson and 117 Chinese.

Per *Taiwan*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. E. E. D. Clarke.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Capt. E. Barnes, Messrs. C. H. Buckman and N. Holmes; from Yokohama, Miss E. R. Sadmore, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Borthwick, Lieut. C. Mallars, U.S.A., Capt. Comings, U.S.A., Mrs. M. D. Andrews; from Kobe, Messrs. Russell, R. Schwab, and O. C. Williams; from Shanghai, Messrs. H. Valckmar, K. Matsumoto, Lao Ching Chuen, and L. R. Johnson.

Per *Tokyo Maru*, from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Dowae, and Miss Johnstone.

Per *Thales*, from Foochow, &c., Mr. Matthaei.

Per *Hailoong*, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs. P. H. Nolting, F. Focce, and A. W. Bailey, Mrs. L. Haesloop, Miss Focken, and Mrs. Drury.

Per *Catherine Apcar*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. Bruce, Mr. Glass, Capt. Twiss, Mr. Hitch, Mrs. Beyfus, Rev. N. J. Couvreur, and Mr. Ridpath.

Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, &c., Messrs. Wm. Klein, H. Ehrenpfort, Mrs. John McLaren, Lieut. Richmond P. Hobson, Lieut. and Mrs. G. D. Moore, Miss E. M. Chappon, Mrs. Thomas Franklin, Miss M. Stanford, Messrs. Karl I. Faust, C. Ming Hym, E. A. Elliot, J. C. White, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Rivers, Messrs. Sam. Feldman and L. Ceresole.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Costa, Mr. and Mrs. N. Martin and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Jose Garces, Mrs. J. Sanz and child, r. L. Sanz, Mrs. Roup Guy, Mr. and Mrs. Juan Wapagar and 5 children, Mr. Vogel, Col. W. S. Martin, Messrs. Steiner, J. Fadden, Grace, J. S. Andersen, B. Ey. eteta, P. Aguado, J. Alva, B. Gutierrez, D. Marlana, and Franklin Brooks.

Per *Indus*, for Hongkong from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Wenyon, Messrs. W. G. de Coligny, R. E. Joeg, Midwood, Bishop Burdon, Messrs. Geo. A. Derby, A. Schultdt, Capt. J. W. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Campos and 4 children, Mr. Francisco Mindez, Rev. J. W. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Samuel and 2 daughters, Messrs. Kelly, Ronald Ayers, F. N. Le Pan, Ange Colard, and Glaseman and 2 children; from Yokohama, Messrs. Mahetony, Manoobab, and Bhesania, and Mrs. Harrison and baby; from Kobe, Messrs. Otami, Taheda, and Asakuro, Sisters Ste. Nictorine and Ste. Vitaline, Messrs. Kenayo, Ishikamo, Wanatabe, Wagner, and Lo Yun Tong; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Eidolstein and Markowitch. For Saigon from Kobe, Mr. Bourgarel; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Fontaine. For Singapore from Nagasaki, Mr. Paul Frintzel; from Shanghai, Capt. and Mrs. Ehy, and Mr. Richards. For Port Said from Shanghai, Mr. S. D. Severbieff; from Yokohama, Mr. Wehrle; from Nagasaki, Capt. Parenogo, and Mr. Serenikoff. For Marseilles from Shanghai, Mr. Camille Revel, Mr. and Mrs. Sennet, Messrs. Ed. Aparicio, Eudes d'Endiville, Delaplanche, and Gallety; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Rigo and infant, Col. Arisoka, Mr. Friburg, Major Jeto, Messrs. Pareto and Ropenn, Mr. and Mrs. Gros, and Mr. Bellin; from Kobe, Sir Bernardine.

DEPARTED.

Per *Chusan*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Dr. and Mrs. Wiegand, Messrs. A. Brotje, Gordon Smith, T. J. Harris, and C. J. Demée; from Colombo, Messrs. Baxter, J. F. W. Payne, Misses Payne and Mitchell; for Bombay, Messrs. J. B. Tumboly, R. Furogori, and J. B. Patell; for Marseilles, Revs. A. Martel, E. Martinez, S. Majuelo, J. Sanchez, D. Narasenis, P. Lagnas, J. Lopez, and A. Martin; for Brindisi, Mrs. Price; for London, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Spriggs and 2 children, Sub-Comdr. and Mrs. W. W. Blades and 4 children, Armt.-Sergt.-Major and Mrs. G. Warner, Quart.-Master-Sergt. and Mrs. W. Cole and 3 children, Mr. Kenneth McK. Ross, Miss Edith Poole, Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Bridie and 2 children, Mr. J. Williamson, and Lieut. Coyley, R.N. From Yokohama for Bombay, Capt. L. Impay, Mr. and Mrs. J. Steven and 3 children; for London, Mr. C. H. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Robertson. From Kobe for London, Mr. H. J. Bothwell, Masters Cabellu and Hall. From Shanghai for Bombay, Mrs. S. E. Murphine; for Marseilles, Mr. T. S. Guyer, R.N.; for London, Mr. A. E. C. Horne, Miss M. E. Gower, and Mr. D. Eutwhistle.

Per *Tonkin*, for Yokohama, Mrs. O. E. Kellogg-Cravens, Mr. Felix Chain, Mrs. Langlois and son, Miss Gaillard, and Mr. L. Smith.

Per *Ballaarat*, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Miss Dowty Purley, Mr. M. M. Shoemaker, Cr.-Sergt. B. S. Cooke, Cr.-Room Sergt. W. Bunting, Sergt. Burdou, Cr.-Sergt. C. Young, Sergts. E. Dunn and H. McKenzie, Lie-Prince Charles Max de Lichnowsky, Messrs. L. Hirsch and Lee Norman; from London, Misses Aspden, Callsen, A. C. Klahn, J. M. Kimdere, and J. Hattrem, Mrs. H. H. Norie, and Miss M. J. Moir; from Brindisi, Mr. A. Pratisi; from Marseilles, Messrs. R. Strauss and W. R. Hughes; from Aden, Mr. E. Niebuhr; from Bombay, Mr. H. A. F. Currie.

Per *Rohilla*, for Kobe from Hongkong, Mr. J. C. Norie; from London, Mr. E. Buxton Forman. From London for Yokohama, Mr. Anderson.

Per *Manila*, from London for Shanghai, Mrs. Kodman; for Yokohama, Mr. R. A. Eddie.

Per *Kutsang*, for Singapore, Capt. R. Morrie, Messrs. E. Harderup and A. A. Bristowe; for Calcutta, Lieut. Hudson, R.A., Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Faulkner.

Per *City of Peking*, for Shanghai, Messrs. C. E. E. Mannicus, R. F. Gray, Y. Tanama, J. Joseph, and S. Mital; for Yokohama, Mr. Emil Riehler; for Honolulu, Col. Martin; for San Francisco, Lieut. W. Conrad, Mrs. M. C. Flavel, Miss Nellie Flavel, Miss Katie Flavel, Messrs. H. B. Price, John Williams, W. Weithler, W. Sweeney, S. Taylor, Byron Gray, Geo. Hetsell, N. Harpel, W. Hartwan, J. Jenkins, Chas. A. Steerage, J. E. Wallace, Chas. Moss, Geo. Haseldon, Thos. Shaw, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Sterling Potley.

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